Water Security Agency

Annual Report for 2014-15

saskatchewan.ca

Government of Saskatchewan

Table of Contents

Letters of Transmittal 1

Introduction 3

Agency Overview 4

- Legislative Responsibilities 5
- Funding Sources 5
- Organizational Structure 5

Progress in 2014-15. 6

2014-15 Financial Overview 38

For More Information 56

Appendices 57

- 25 Year Saskatchewan Water Security Plan Report for 2014-15 57
- Organizational Structure 79
- Regional Boundaries and Office Locations 80

Letters of Transmittal

Her Honour, the Honourable Vaughn Solomon Schofield,
Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan

May it Please Your Honour:

I respectfully submit the Annual Report of the Water Security Agency for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2015.

During the 2014-15 fiscal year, through the Emergency Flood Damage Reduction Program the Water Security Agency provided financial assistance with flood protection measures to 319 clients including 28 communities, 20 rural municipalities, four First Nations, 15 businesses and non-profits, and 252 families.

An assured water supply is essential to support further economic growth. During the year, the Water Security Agency completed maintenance work on the channel from Lake Diefenbaker to Buffalo Pound Lake, significantly increasing water supply available for future growth.

Our Government is committed to accountability, to honouring our commitments and to responsibly managing expenditures. This report shows progress on our commitments and our expenditures.

The Honourable Herb Cox
Minister Responsible

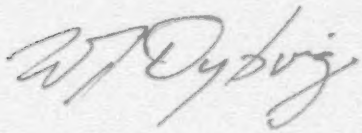
The Honourable Herb Cox
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water Security Agency

I have the honour of submitting the Annual Report of the Water Security Agency for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2015. Management is responsible for financial and administrative management of the Water Security Agency and was responsible for preparation of this report. I affirm that the information included in this report is factual and complete.

The Water Security Agency is guided by the 25 Year Saskatchewan Water Security Plan and has continued to work with partners to implement this plan. We have worked to improve knowledge of supply through work such as completing a hydrologic computer model of the South Saskatchewan River system. We made important progress on many initiatives including development of a new approach to drainage where consultations with stakeholders were completed and draft regulations are being prepared.

Water Security Agency staff continued to work closely with municipal governments to ensure drinking water safety and that wastewater is managed in a way that is safe for human health and the environment.

I and all staff of the Water Security Agency are committed to ensuring water supports economic growth, quality of life and environmental well-being and look forward to working with you as we continue to implement the 25 Year Water Security Plan.



Wayne Dybvig
President

Introduction

This annual report for the Water Security Agency presents the Agency's results on activities and outcomes for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2015. It reports to the public and elected officials on public commitments made and other key accomplishments of the Agency.

Results are provided on publicly committed strategies, actions and performance measures identified in the 2014-15 Plan. The report also demonstrates progress made on Government commitments in the Government Direction for 2014-15: Steady Growth, the Saskatchewan Plan for Growth – Vision 2020 and Beyond, throne speeches and other commitments and activities of the Agency.

The 25 Year Saskatchewan Water Security Plan was published in October 2012 in support of the Saskatchewan Plan for Growth commitment to secure Saskatchewan's water future. Progress on each of the 89 actions which support the Plan vision of "Water supporting economic growth, quality of life and environmental well-being" is presented in this report, as Appendix A. Many specific actions reported on in this annual report were also designed to implement the 25 Year Plan.

The annual report demonstrates the Agency's commitment to effective public performance reporting, transparency and accountability to the public.

Alignment with Government's Direction

The Agency's activities in 2014-15 align with Government's vision and four goals:

Our Government's Vision

A strong and growing Saskatchewan, the best place in Canada – to live, to work, to start a business, to get an education, to raise a family and to build a life.

Government's Goals

- Sustaining growth and opportunities for Saskatchewan people.
- Meeting the Challenges of Growth.
- Securing a Better Quality of Life for Saskatchewan People.
- Delivering responsive and responsible government.

Together, all ministries and agencies support the achievement of Government's four goals and work towards a secure and prosperous Saskatchewan.

Agency Overview

The Water Security Agency is a Treasury Board Crown Corporation, with responsibility for managing the water supply, protecting water quality, ensuring safe drinking water, managing dams and water supply channels, reducing flood and drought damage and providing information on water. The Water Security Agency works to integrate all aspects of provincial water management to ensure water supplies support economic growth, quality of life and environmental well-being.

The Water Security Agency leads the ongoing planning, implementation and reporting associated with drinking water governance and management; implements, inspects and regulates compliance for all of the 810 regulated waterworks and the 588 regulated wastewater facilities in Saskatchewan; monitors surface water quality at 24 primary surface water quality stations in Saskatchewan; manages the drinking water information database (Environmental Management System [EMS]) that stores all of the water quality and inspection data for all of Saskatchewan's regulated water and wastewater works, as well as all of the collected surface water quality data; and manages the SaskH2O.ca website that contains drinking water-related information gathered from water management authorities within the province.

Sound water management and expertise is crucial to successfully meeting the demands of a growing population and economy while maintaining healthy ecosystems. The Water Security Agency, through the Water Availability Study and hydrometric and water quality programs, is making significant investments to improve the knowledge of the quantity, quality and use of surface and ground water supplies in Saskatchewan.

Much of Saskatchewan depends on ground water for domestic, municipal, industrial and agricultural uses. To protect this resource, the Water Security Agency licenses all but domestic users to ensure new development does not adversely impact existing users. The Water Security Agency also operates the provincial ground water monitoring network, conducts regional ground water mapping and resource assessment, and provides information to citizens and industry to help locate ground water supplies.

The Water Security Agency also maintains and operates 49 dams and 130 kilometres of conveyance channels (plus ancillary works) and makes significant investments in the rehabilitation and upgrading of this infrastructure each year.

The Water Security Agency provides various hydrology services necessary for proper water management including flood forecasting, operation planning, sustainable water allocation, and low risk building development. In partnership with the Government of Canada, the Water Security Agency operates a 283-station hydrometric network to collect data on stream flows and lake levels. All major surface water allocations, including municipal, industrial, irrigation and intensive livestock uses, are approved by the Water Security Agency to ensure water use is sustainable. Representatives from the Water Security Agency also represent Saskatchewan on transboundary water issues through groups like the Prairie Provinces Water Board.

To reduce flood damage, Water Security Agency hydrologists identify elevations of 1:500 year floods and work with the Ministry of Government Relations to ensure at-risk development is prevented in areas susceptible to flooding. The Water Security Agency provides funding to municipalities, conservation and development area authorities and watershed associations through the Water Control Program to maintain water channels and reduce flood risk.

The Emergency Flood Damage Reduction Program was initiated in 2011-12 and helps clients prevent and mitigate flood damage. Due to continuing flood risk in some areas the program was extended into 2012-13, 2013-14, and 2014-15.

Public understanding, support and participation are crucial to effective water management, including efforts to protect source water. The Water Security Agency works with community representatives to develop source water protection plans for watersheds and aquifers. Plans include initiatives to help landowners improve watershed health through restoration of riparian areas, protection of wetlands and grasslands, and encouragement of management practices that benefit fish and wildlife.

The groups formed to implement the source water protection plans are important partners.

The Water Security Agency works with and provides financial support to these groups to implement the plans. Conservation and Development Area Authorities, Watershed Associations and Rural Municipalities are also key partners. The Water Security Agency also supports their work with grants delivered under the Water Control Program.

Enforcement of regulations is occasionally necessary to ensure fair and effective water management. Ministry of Environment Conservation Officers provide support to Water Security Agency for enforcement work though a contractual arrangement.

Legislative Responsibilities

The Water Security Agency administers and is responsible for the following legislation:

- *The Water Security Agency Act*
- *The Conservation and Development Act*
- *The Water Power Act*
- *The Watershed Associations Act*
- *Portions of The Environmental Management and Protection Act, 2010*
- *Portions of The Public Health Act, 1994*

Funding Sources

The Water Security Agency relies on several revenue sources, including grants from the province's General Revenue Fund; water rental charges through *The Water Power Act*; industrial water use charges; and contracts with government and non-government agencies, associations and other sources.

Organizational Structure

The Water Security Agency reports to the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water Security Agency and is governed by a one-person board of directors, which is also the minister responsible.

The Water Security Agency has six divisions (see Appendix B – Organizational Chart), including:

- Corporate Services
- Engineering and Geoscience
- Environmental and Municipal Management Services
- Integrated Water Services
- Legal, Regulatory and Aboriginal Affairs
- Policy and Communications

At the end of the reporting period, March 31, 2015, the Water Security Agency had 205 employees (196.73 full-time equivalents).

The Corporate Services Division also provides payroll services, finance, and information technology support to SaskWater on a contractual basis. The Water Security Agency's Head Office is located in Moose Jaw, but many services and programs are delivered through its regional and environmental services offices in Meadow Lake, Melfort, Melville, Moose Jaw, Nipawin, North Battleford, Prince Albert, Regina, Saskatoon, Shaunavon, Swift Current, Watrous, Weyburn and Yorkton. Offices are also located at the Gardiner and Rafferty dam sites.

Progress in 2014-15

Government Goal: Sustaining Growth and Opportunities for Saskatchewan People

Water and water services are essential to satisfy our drinking water, agricultural, environmental, industrial and recreational needs. The Water Security Agency aims to ensure that water is allocated sustainably and that we have the information and knowledge necessary to make sound water management decisions.

Strategy - Ensure the sustainability of our surface and ground water supplies

The WSA aims to carefully manage water allocations through licensing and monitoring, encourage wise and efficient use of water, and ensure that water quality is maintained in key provincial water resources.

Results

In 2014-15, WSA significantly improved knowledge of sustainable supply management by completing a hydrologic computer model of the South Saskatchewan River system and fish habitat models for the Qu'Appelle River system. WSA also participated in ongoing work with the University of Saskatchewan to understand the effects of climate variability on blue-green algae blooms.

Planned Action: Evaluate applications for water use to determine sustainability and impact on other users and decide whether to allocate requested water supplies.

- Completed water availability analysis to determine sustainability and project impact assessments on existing users. This supports decisions on whether to allocate water for new project applications.

Planned Action: Complete development of a hydrologic computer model for the South Saskatchewan River system that will be used to inform future water management decisions.

- Model was completed and is operational. The model will inform decisions around the Lake Diefenbaker operating plan.

Planned Action: Subject to findings from 2013-14 work, develop and implement predictive water quality and fish habitat models for the Qu'Appelle River system to evaluate local and cumulative effects of new requests for water.

- Completed fish habitat models to identify minimum flows. This allows the WSA to better consider environmental requirements when making allocation decisions.
- With research partners, WSA submitted revised third party funding proposals to develop predictive water quality models. Funding decisions are to be made in winter 2015.

Planned Action: Review and update existing water rights licences. Industrial purpose licences and projects located along the Qu'Appelle River will be reviewed on a priority basis.

- The review and update of industrial purpose water right files was 90 per cent completed. This helps to ensure regulatory compliance, improves our knowledge of water use and, in some cases, frees up unused allocations for new users.

Planned Action: Develop sector specific materials such as fact sheets on conservation and efficiency best practices.

- This work was not completed. Water conservation approaches will be considered during the development of water allocation policy.

Planned Action: Identify options for increasing water use efficiencies through regulatory methods.

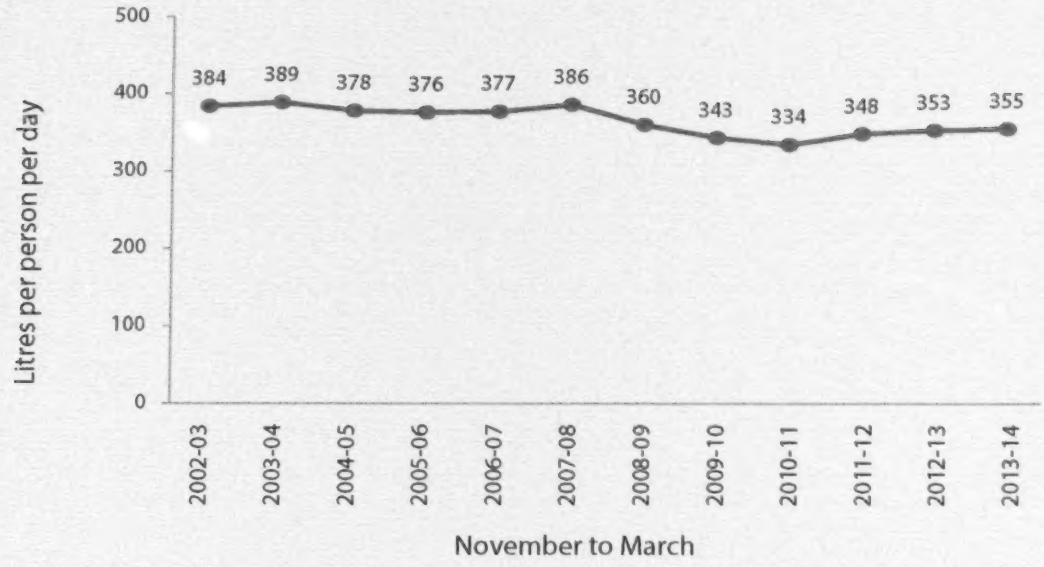
- This work was postponed to be coordinated with the development of water allocation policy. Public consultation on water allocation policy is planned for 2015-16.

Planned Action: Work with partners to initiate research to better understand and manage the impacts of climate variability on water resources.

- A water quality study at Lake Diefenbaker is underway with the University of Saskatchewan and includes developing an understanding of the effects of climate variability on risk of cyanobacterial (blue-green algae) blooms.

Performance Measures

Winter municipal water use



Source: Water Security Agency 2015

Note: Data is collected on a calendar year basis and therefore the data required to calculate this metric for Nov. 2014-March 2015 timeframe is not yet available. In addition, data for 2013-14 is preliminary as not all communities have submitted their 2014 water use reports.

This measure indicates water conservation as it relates to municipal and First Nations community water use. It includes use in the home, in businesses, and for public services such as firefighting, road building, public pools and rinks. It also includes water lost due to system leakage.

Only the winter (November to March) consumption measure is presented, as it more clearly shows trends in municipal water use unrelated to variations in precipitation. Data is derived from community water use records submitted annually to the Water Security Agency and compared to population records from current Ministry of Health data or to current census data where health data is not available.

Residential water conservation is a critical component of overall municipal water conservation. In 2006, residential water use in Saskatchewan accounted for an estimated 44 per cent of the total annual municipal use. Toilets alone accounted for an estimated 30 per cent of in-home residential use. The Water Security Agency promoted conversion to low flow toilets through the Provincial Toilet Replacement Rebate Program and continues to raise awareness of additional water conservation opportunities.

The measure indicates that per capita municipal water use has been generally lower since 2008-9, in comparison to the previous six years of data. The Water Security Agency's water conservation initiatives, focused on promoting residential conservation practices, should directly influence this measure.

In prior reports, the usage data for the City of Saskatoon included water processed by the city but used outside of the city. This affected the calculation of litres used per person per day. The data has been revised for all years so Saskatoon water use includes only that used within the city.

Strategy - Ensure adequate water information is available to support decision making

Understanding basic information about our water resources, including current and projected demands and availability, as well as ecosystem needs, is a critical foundation for water management decision making.

Results

In 2014-15, WSA continued its work to ensure we have the information we need. This included work to determine existing water use by sector and major basin, completion of the State of the Aquifer System report for Regina East aquifers, analysis of water supply availability in the South Saskatchewan River system, and ongoing water quality monitoring and analysis.

Planned Action: Review progress, assess results, and work toward completion of the multi-year Water Availability Study (WAS). The WAS is a $7.5 million project to develop the information on water supply and water use needed to support sustainable water resource decisions that can address economic growth and adjust to changes in our water supply due to climate change. Planned activities in 2014-15 included:

Assessment of water use charges to support public infrastructure

- This work is complete and will be used to inform any future decisions regarding public infrastructure development.

Benefit analysis of Lake Diefenbaker reservoir operating plan

- This work is complete. Assessing different operating scenarios helps the WSA effectively operate the reservoir at Lake Diefenbaker for the benefit of the public.

Analysis of water supply availability in the South Saskatchewan River system

- An analysis is underway of both Swift Current Creek basin and Lake Diefenbaker water availability. This analysis should provide the organization with a greater understanding around water availability and provide options to meet increasing water demands within the province.

Continued work to determine the existing water use by sector and delineated by the major basin

- This work is complete. By understanding the extent of water use by all sectors and across major basins, the WSA is better able to allocate water to new users, plan for new or upgraded water supply infrastructure, prevent conflict amongst users in the event of shortage, and promote conservation.

Continuation of the Value of Water Study and consideration of results in the development of water allocation policy

- Completion anticipated in 2015. The study is one tool being used to help determine efficient water allocations within the province.

Continued Environmental Instream Flow Needs assessments for priority systems

- Environmental flow assessments targeting fish habitat in the Qu'Appelle system are complete. Water quality assessment and development of a decision support tool is ongoing. These assessments will help the WSA incorporate environmental considerations into decision making.

Partner with the Global Institute for Water Security on a major study of water quality at Lake Diefenbaker

- Water quality sample collection was completed as planned in 2014-2015. Water quality analysis and assessment will be ongoing to March 2018. This work will give the WSA a better understanding of internal processes in the reservoir and help identify future risks to water quality.

Planned Action: Implement process that will enable preparation of an annual report on water use by sector

- Annual water use data reported by sector and summarized by watershed was completed. Publishing this report encourages innovative use of the data outside of the organization, transparency within the organization, and public understanding of the work that the WSA does.

Planned Action: Prepare a State of the Aquifer System report for Regina East aquifers

- A draft report is complete. The report should improve development decisions around aquifer use.

Planned Action: Continue to collect and analyze water quality and biological quality data from the 24 provincial primary monitoring stations and provide Water Quality Index information to Environment Canada in accordance with the existing contribution agreement for enhanced surface water quality monitoring in Saskatchewan

- Water quality samples were collected from all 24 primary sites as planned. Biological monitoring was not undertaken this year. Results for the Water Quality Index calculation for Saskatchewan were submitted in advance of the request from Environment Canada.

Planned Action: Continue to collect and assess water quality data from critical sites to determine ecosystem health status and trends and inform decision making

- The WSA completed the second year of the three year Qu'Appelle Water Quality Study. The Agency also undertook water quality monitoring activities in response to flooding and contamination events throughout the fiscal year. Examples include evaluation of Quill Lakes water quality and response to a spill of produced water and oil to the Souris River. A greater understanding of water quality issues benefits the organization – and the public – by allowing better, more informed short and long term decisions in regards to water quality management.

Planned Action: Continue review of the Saskatchewan Primary Station Surface Water Quality Monitoring Program

- A dataset has been compiled and preliminary analyses will be initiated in 2015. This allows the WSA to use knowledge distilled from the data to better inform water management decisions.

Planned Action: Operate 300 hydrometric stations with Canada through the federal-provincial hydrometric network

- Together with the Government of Canada, the hydrometric network was maintained to provide essential data for water management decision making. Saskatchewan continues to work toward improved Federal-Provincial coordination and cooperation to improve efficiency and more effective program delivery.

Planned Action: Work with the National Administrators Table (NAT) on review of federal role in the hydrometric network

- Work is underway with Canada and NAT on reviewing the federal role. Canada is reviewing federal interest in hydrometric stations. The WSA is directly working with Environment Canada to improve hydrometric operations within Saskatchewan.

Planned Action: Operate the 70-station Provincial Groundwater Monitoring Network (the observation well network)

- Stations were operated and maintained successfully to continue to collect long term monitoring data regarding the health of the resource and specific important aquifer systems. A greater understanding of ground water capacity, impacts of use, and long and short term trends, should encourage more informed decision making within the organization.

Planned Action: Review goals of Hydrometric Monitoring Program and assess adequacy and gaps of current program

- This work has been postponed to 2015-16. The scope of the review was expanded to a strategic level discussion and more time is needed to evaluate options.

Planned Action: Complete evaluation of the application and ongoing use of the Saskatchewan Environment Environmental Management System (SEEMS) database and SaskH2O website for public delivery of drinking water and wastewater quality information

- The SEEMS is a comprehensive environmental management database used by the WSA to track and report on drinking water and wastewater quality, inspections and related information. SEEMS is tied into SaskH20, which is the public portal for drinking water and wastewater information. SEEMS supports automated receipt of laboratory water and wastewater reporting information and integrates and displays this information for public access. A preliminary assessment of the SEEMS and SaskH20 website indicated that the systems continue to fulfil WSA tracking and reporting needs, as well as external reporting functions, and provide transparent and easy access to important water quality and regulatory compliance information for the public. It is anticipated that in future years upgrades will be required to the systems in order to adjust for loss of software support and allow for integration with newer web-based initiatives such as automation of WSA processes, permit applications, construction notification and results based regulatory requirement implementation.

Planned Action: Identify opportunities to collaborate with external academic and research partners on defining and undertaking strategic research initiatives

- The WSA is cooperating with the University of Saskatchewan Centre for Hydrology on drainage science and flow forecasting science. More accurate forecasts of floods and droughts should inform mitigation efforts and reduce damages to property and risks to public health.

The WSA is also working with the University of Saskatchewan on the Lake Diefenbaker Water Quality Study.

Additional Action: Testing was performed and work is progressing on the development of online forms as a component of the overall drinking water and wastewater information management system. The forms will allow people to enter data for permit applications or notifications online and improve opportunities for data analysis and information sharing.

Work is also underway on development of online permit application forms for the Water Main and Sewage Main Environmental Code chapters. This is one step on the way to an overhaul of the data system and the way that the WSA will deal with permit applications or notifications under the Environmental Code in the future.

Government Goal: Meeting the challenges of growth

Growth brings with it an increasing demand for water. Managing water demand and use may not fully address the needs related to economic and population growth in the province. In some areas, the WSA considers development and acquisition of additional water infrastructure to secure the water management needed for growth.

Strategy - Develop or acquire new infrastructure to meet water supply and management needs

The Qu'Appelle system serves an area of Saskatchewan that is growing in both population and scale of development. Ongoing infrastructure development to meet anticipated demands ensures the anticipated growth is supported, while longer term solutions must also be weighed. At the same time, the WSA is considering the transfer of the remaining water management infrastructure owned by the federal government in order to ensure that the province's water management interests can be met.

Results

In 2014-15, WSA increased the capacity of water flowing from Lake Diefenbaker to Buffalo Pound, increasing supply to support further growth.

WSA also initiated discussions with Canada on the transfer of federally-owned water management infrastructure.

Planned Action: Investigate, design and implement maintenance measures to restore, in the short term, some of the original flow capacity of the Upper Qu'Appelle channel

- 3.1 km of channel were successfully dredged in October 2014, thereby increasing the channel capacity to deliver water. Investigations and design are ongoing. This will help meet increasing water demands within the province.

Planned Action: Complete the feasibility study investigating alternative measures to increase the delivery of water from Lake Diefenbaker to Buffalo Pound Lake to meet long term water supply needs

- Stantec completed the conceptual and feasibility study of in-valley conveyance options. Evaluating the feasibility of the Qu'Appelle South Irrigation Project is being led by other ministries.

Planned Action: Continue discussions with Canada to transfer federally-owned infrastructure to the Water Security Agency where appropriate to meet provincial interests

- Work has been initiated to assess the transfer of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada-owned water management infrastructure.

Government Goal: Securing a better quality of life for Saskatchewan people

Water and water management are critical to our quality of life. From safe drinking water to a healthy environment, to prevention of flood damages and safe dams, the WSA works to secure the well-being of Saskatchewan residents.

Strategy - Ensure our drinking water is safe

Drinking water safety involves a series of safeguards along the water supply route to prevent contamination. Source water protection and monitoring, waterworks operator training, appropriate treatment processes and equipment, infrastructure maintenance and inspection, water quality monitoring, and public education initiatives are all essential to ensuring safe drinking water within the province.

Results

In 2014-15, WSA continued to oversee waterwork compliance, provide safe drinking water education and technical advice, and promote regional water systems where appropriate. Work also continued on a study of Point of Entry water treatment devices.

Planned Action: Ensure the provision of safe drinking water through inspections, monitoring, reporting, education and compliance follow-up for Water Security Agency regulated waterworks

- Approximately 955 waterworks inspections were completed in the 2014-15 fiscal year as a means to ensure provision of safe drinking water.

Planned Action: Review, revise and post any updated fact sheets and educational materials on the Water Security Agency website, and promote educational efforts through the Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association (SUMA), the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM) and the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Water Pipelines meetings and publications

- Providing advice and putting necessary information in the hands of citizens is a critical government service. To this end, many waterworks and sewage works related factsheets have been updated and posted on SaskH2O website which is linked through the WSA website. Work was initiated on converting the content of fact sheets to cover the June 1, 2015 proclamation of EMPA 2010 and *The Waterworks and Sewage Works Regulations*.

Planned Action: Promote safe drinking water production during flood events through publications, meetings and promotional efforts with SUMA, SARM, the Saskatchewan Public Works Association, the Saskatchewan Water and Wastewater Association and other stakeholders and interest groups

- In response to flooding in 2014, WSA offered site assessments and advice regarding flooded wells, including testing of water used as a primary source of drinking water through the Provincial Flood Testing Program.
- Approximately 200 enquiries were received regarding flooded wells in 2014. Educational materials on groundwater quality testing, well disinfection, and well management were provided to program participants. The Water Security Agency visited and tested 21 drinking water wells that had been affected by flooding.

Planned Action: Encourage consideration of conversion to regional systems during inspection, waterworks upgrade evaluation and pre-design plan review

- WSA staff encourage consideration of conversion to regional systems where existing municipal waterworks infrastructure cannot meet drinking water quality standards. This occurs during inspections and discussions with town councils or waterworks owners for regulated WSA facilities where appropriate to the facility specific situation and proximity to regional services.

Planned Action: Support and work with SaskWater to evaluate and assess (with federal and First Nations governments) opportunities for the province to provide infrastructure, including connections to regional water systems, and technical and inspection services on reserves on a cost-recovery basis

- Water Security Agency developed scope of actions with SaskWater and is encouraging use of regional services through discussion with other provincial agencies on regulations associated with federal Bill S-8, Safe Drinking Water for First Nations. Water Security Agency is also holding discussions with affected clients and providing drinking water educational materials.

Planned Action: Complete study to consider the application of Point of Entry (POE) water treatment devices for use on treated and raw water pipelines in rural Saskatchewan

- WSA entered the second and final phase of the Point of Entry water treatment device study with the installation of a POE device in the residence of a consumer served by the Coteau Hills Rural Water Pipeline in Jan 2015. Phase 2 was delayed as it was necessary to find a willing participant after the initial consumers reconsidered their willingness to participate in the test. The study is expected to be completed by March 31, 2016.

Planned Action: Review and update the province's approach to Safe Drinking Water including consideration of the 2002 Laing Report and the 2002 Safe Drinking Water Strategy

- Review postponed to 2015-16 to allow for consideration of relevant regulatory and legislative changes proclaimed in June 2015 (*The Environmental Management and Protection Act, 2010* and *The Waterworks and Sewage Works Regulations*).

Planned Action: Continue to develop drinking water guidelines for water treatment plants regulated by the Water Security Agency

- Drinking Water operational and technical guideline development continued throughout 2014-15. WSA participated in two Federal-Provincial-Territorial Committee on Drinking Water meetings during 2014-15.

Planned Action: Continue to develop codes of practice, guidelines, best management practices and design standards for wastewater and biosolids treatment facilities regulated by the Water Security Agency

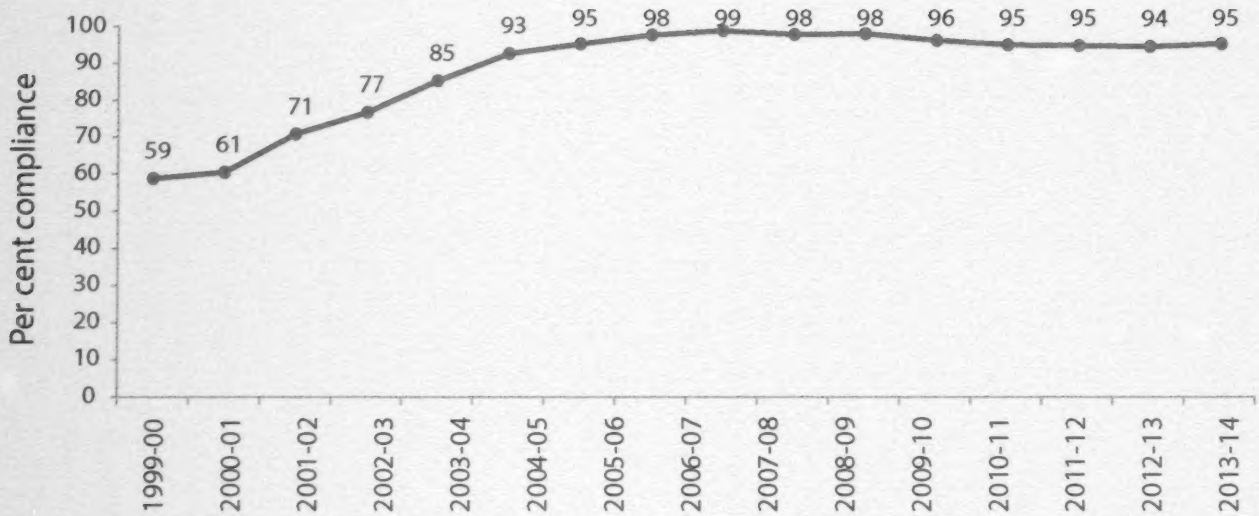
- Completed during 2014-15 as part of general educational efforts and in relation to applications to construct or upgrade sewage works. One example includes the commissioning of a novel biosolids treatment system as a component of the City of North Battleford sewage works.

Planned Action: Continue to collect source and treated drinking water samples from selected affected communities in the province to identify parameter exceedance, assess the performance and/or evaluate the water quality testing results and treatment system provided by the communities, conduct research if needed to assess the risk

- Samples are collected in accordance with waterworks Permits to Operate for WSA regulated waterworks. During 2014-15, WSA initiated requirements related to monitoring of Limited Scope water pipelines. Drinking water quality data is reviewed as a component of waterworks pre-inspection activities and any deficiencies are addressed by Environmental Project Officers through discussion with waterworks owners and operators at the time of facility inspection.

Performance Measures

Drinking water quality standards compliance



Source: Water Security Agency; SEEMS Database 2015

The drinking water quality compliance indicator is an average of compliance with disinfection and bacteriological standards, both of which measure compliance with drinking water quality standards. This indicator looks at the results of bacteriological water quality monitoring and the level of disinfectant present in drinking water and is a good predictor of the safety of drinking water.

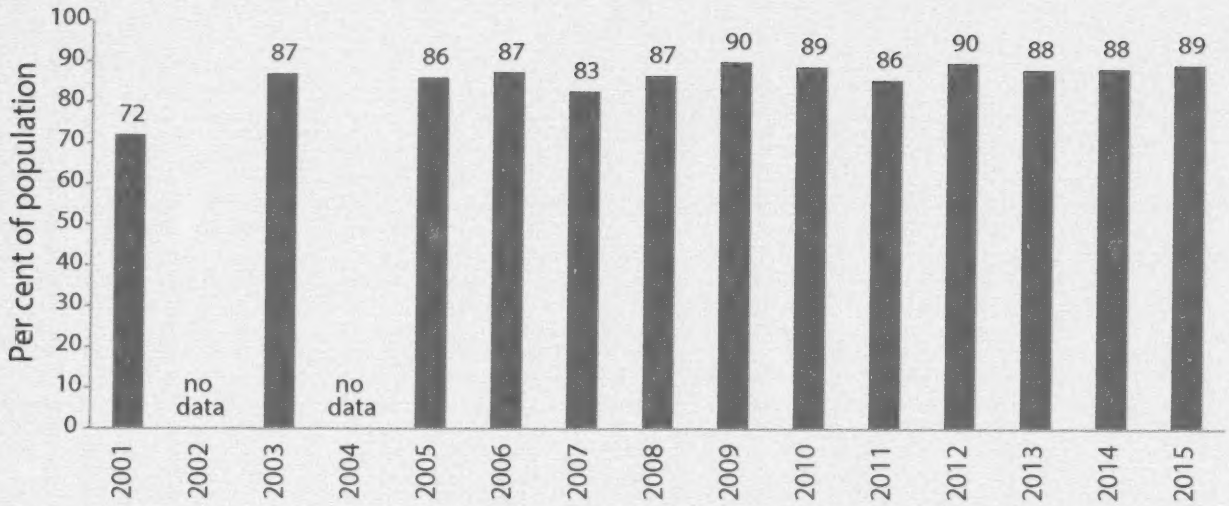
Compliance with drinking water quality standards for disinfection and bacteriological quality is important as microbial contamination in water supplies can quickly result in significant illness. Proper disinfection is an important way to ensure safe drinking water and prevent the outbreak of waterborne diseases. The indicator reports on the actions of the Water Security Agency in addressing risks to the health of people and the environment and key actions related to ensuring safe and sustainable drinking water. The accuracy of this indicator is fully dependent on accurate testing and reporting by regulated waterworks operators.

The drinking water quality compliance indicator has been very good for the past few years and has remained relatively stable, with an average compliance rate of 95 per cent for the past five years. The WSA will continue to reinforce the need to comply with disinfection requirements and proper reporting of disinfection values in 2015-16 and beyond to ensure increased awareness. Ongoing inspection and education awareness initiatives with waterworks owners and operators are planned to sustain good performance in achieving water that is safe from bacteriological threats and meets disinfection standards.

Key risks to achieving this measure include an inability of waterworks owners or operators to comply with standards and operator certification requirements (such as a lack of staff, understanding, overall planning capacity or financial resources), catastrophic events that affect drinking water quality (such as major flooding or equipment failure) and new/evolving standards that change the base requirements.

Performance Measures

Drinking water quality satisfaction



Source: Ministry of Environment Polling Results

Source: Water Security Agency 2015

The Drinking Water Quality Satisfaction indicator is based on the results of annual omnibus polling of Saskatchewan residents with regard to their level of confidence in the quality of their drinking water supply. The measure illustrates the percentage of respondents who indicated that they are very or somewhat confident in the quality of their tap water. This indicator reflects upon the success of the Water Security Agency in advancing safe drinking water at supplies across the province including municipalities, pipelines and large commercial water systems.

The drinking water quality satisfaction indicator has been greater than 80 per cent since 2003.

Ongoing attention to actions such as consumer education efforts, waterworks inspections, media coverage of water contamination events affecting larger centres, implementation of water quality standards, water workshops and consumer notification will help to maintain a high level of public confidence in the safety of drinking water in the future.

Key risks to achieving this measure include lack of public knowledge about the effectiveness of drinking water quality compliance requirements and efforts; major climatic events that impact base survey water quality and quantity (such as sustained droughts or major flooding); and upsets or significant problems at a waterworks for a major centre in or beyond the province that may influence the confidence of a significant portion of population in Saskatchewan. There is also some risk in how the survey is constructed (for instance, the order in which questions are asked and the possibility that other topics covered in the survey might influence the respondents' answers).

Strategy - Ensure wastewater is effectively managed

Effectively managed wastewater is an integral part of water security in Saskatchewan. Contamination of surface or ground water comes with economic, social and environmental costs.

Results

In 2014-15, WSA continued to oversee wastewater works compliance and coordinate implementation of federal standards.

Planned Action: Protect source water by ensuring effective treatment and management of wastewater, through inspections, monitoring, reporting, education and compliance follow-up for wastewater works regulated by the Water Security Agency

- Approximately 591 wastewater system inspections were completed during 2014-15 as a means to protect both source water and the environment. WSA addressed all wastewater system upset reports received during the fiscal year as well.

Planned Action: Determine priority wastewater facilities requiring upgrades, ensure completion of needed effluent characterization, and aid sewage works owners in developing site specific discharge criteria to advance implementation of the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment Municipal Waste Water Effluent Strategy

- Completed evaluation of risk assessments for wastewater systems subject to the *Wastewater System Effluent Regulations* and the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment Canada-wide Strategy for Municipal Wastewater Effluents.
- Tracked status of municipal wastewater facilities for compliance with standards as a means to direct needed upgrading priorities.
- Reviewed wastewater capacity during subdivision reviews. Completed a technical assessment of the status and capacity of all regulated wastewater systems in Saskatchewan.

Planned Action: Consider and if needed negotiate and implement an Administration Agreement or Equivalency Agreement with Environment Canada for implementation of the federal Wastewater System Effluent Regulations by the Water Security Agency in Saskatchewan

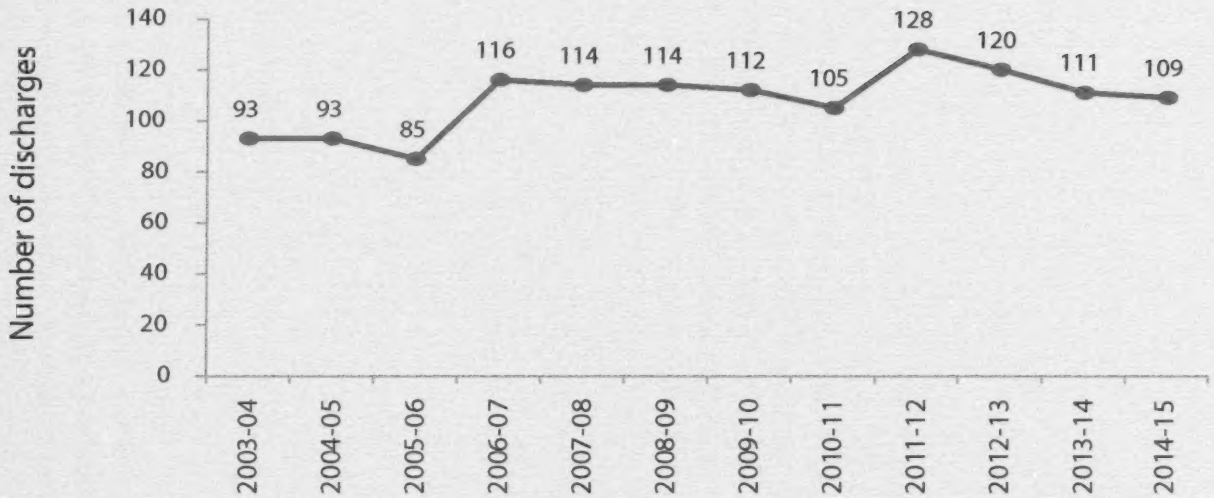
- Negotiation of an administration agreement for delivery of the *Wastewater System Effluent Regulations* was concluded in a technical capacity and at year end was being reviewed by both governments. The agreement will ensure that municipal wastewater effluent in the province will be managed under a harmonized framework.

Planned Action: Evaluate guidelines and develop coordinated policies for on-site wastewater management and disposal, including an interjurisdictional review of on-site wastewater management practices

- Significant effort to improve the collection and disposal of Liquid Domestic Waste has been made in 2014-15, including waste hauler workshops and compliance related actions. This, however, is only part of the effort needed to address all types of residential wastewater management in high density rural development and cottage subdivisions. Further work is planned for 2015-16.

Performance Measures

Sewage effluent discharges that represent a risk to source waters



Source: Water Security Agency 2015

The number of sewage effluent discharges that represent a risk to source waters is a direct indication of the current potential for source water contamination due to poor wastewater treatment, overloaded systems, or systems with failing infrastructure, etc. This measure is selected since it is the most direct measure of the number of potential significant contamination point sources affecting a range of water uses.

As of March 31, 2015, approximately 109 wastewater systems have been identified as having a discharge that may reach a surface water body and represent a risk to source waters under certain conditions.

Growth in Saskatchewan communities is also placing additional pressure on sewage infrastructure as some communities were at treatment and/or storage capacity. On an annual basis, Water Security Agency staff review the quality of effluent from each regulated sewage works. Reduction of ammonia and chlorine residual emissions within treated wastewater effluent, sewage works capacity or other treatment capability issues typically involve significant planning, investment and construction. Therefore, it can be expected that reductions in the number of works which represent a risk to source waters will be a time consuming process. Work to resolve problematic wastewater systems will continue for the foreseeable future.

Strategy - Reduce risk of flood, drainage, and drought damages in the province

Floods, drought, and inappropriate/unorganized drainage can cause significant damage to property, infrastructure, and productivity within Saskatchewan. Reducing the risks associated with these events begins with understanding which areas within the province are most at risk and then reducing these risks through effective monitoring, regulation, infrastructure and education.

Results

In 2014-15, WSA continued to serve Saskatchewan citizens by providing water level forecasts and delivering the Emergency Flood Damage Reduction Program. In addition, work began on the development of new drainage regulations.

A very large rainstorm from June 27 to 30, 2014, produced record floods in parts of eastern Saskatchewan. By Sunday, June 29, WSA had 50 people working along with staff from Government Relations and other ministries to assist communities with flood protection and response. WSA was able to provide technical advice as well as financial assistance through the Emergency Flood Damage Reduction Program.

Planned Action: Provide real time hydrometric information for emergency preparedness, flood mitigation, and flood response

- Continued to provide real time information from Saskatchewan and Canada for forecasting, operation planning, flood preparedness and mitigation, and recreation planning. The data is used by the Water Security Agency, other governments, local user groups, recreation interests, and the general public.

Planned Action: Assess potential spring runoff and flood risk, forecast flood risk and notify potentially impacted communities of flood risk

- Runoff forecasts were ongoing from the prairie snowpack of 2014, major rain events on the eastern Saskatchewan border and in the alpine headwaters of the South Saskatchewan River, as well as the fall conditions and developing 2014-15 snowpack. The forecasts were used by the Water Security Agency as well as the Ministry of Government Relations to notify the public and stakeholders of forecast flows and allow for appropriate flood management actions.

Planned Action: When requested, provide technical advice on flood protection measures to the public

- As requested, WSA has provided advice either through the Emergency Flood Damage Reduction Program or through Regional Services. When extensive rainfall produced a major flood event in eastern Saskatchewan on the July long weekend, WSA had 50 people on the ground assisting with flood protection measures.

Planned Action: Work with the Ministry of Government Relations on the development of a long term flood mitigation program

- The WSA worked with the Ministry of Government Relations, who continued to lead the work with the federal government on development of a long-term flood mitigation program that serves the needs of Saskatchewan communities and residents.

Planned Action: Define the scope and standard of flood forecasting services provided by the Water Security Agency and establish formal liaison protocols with Alberta and Manitoba for transfer of information and data

- The inaugural meeting and discussion of a prairie provinces flow forecasting committee occurred in early 2015, resulting in plans to establish a formal committee, dialogue and cooperation plan going forward.

Planned Action: Investigate improved flood forecasting tools

- Staff are currently examining forecast tool options and have engaged the University of Saskatchewan's Centre for Hydrology to help determine the best flood forecasting tools for the WSA.

Planned Action: Complete construction cleanup relating to the constructed channel below Fishing Lake. Assess options and begin to convert emergency flood control berms around Fishing Lake to permanent works

- Cleanup relating to the constructed channel needed to be deferred until drier conditions exist in 2015. Contracts for the supply of rock rip-rap for use on the berms have been awarded and are on schedule.

Planned Action: Investigate drainage complaints, make recommendations or orders as appropriate, and undertake required enforcement

- Staff responded to requests for assistance to resolve complaints throughout 2014-15. Due to the overwhelming numbers in the wake of the wet conditions, the WSA has a backlog of unresolved complaints.

Planned Action: Support maintenance of organized drainage and channel clearing through the Water Control Program to help Conservation and Development Area Authorities, Watershed Associations, Rural Municipalities and landowners deal with excess moisture

- Conservation and Development Area Authorities, Watershed Associations, Rural Municipalities submitted their bills and the program payments were completed. The program provided financial aid to help ensure water courses and infrastructure effectively conveyed water away from areas with excess moisture.

Planned Action: Continue to work with other agencies (federal and provincial) to better understand and manage the impacts of climate variability on water resources

- Work continued on the water quality research with University of Saskatchewan and includes consideration of climate change impacts on water quality.

Planned Action: Use results from the Online Drainage Forum, as well as other consultations, in development of a new, results-based drainage works approval process

- The Online Drainage Forum report was posted on the Water Security Agency website. Results from Online Drainage Forum have been incorporated into draft drainage regulations and development of a new approach to drainage is progressing well.

Speech from the Throne: Development of new regulations governing drainage as part of the province's 25 Year Saskatchewan Water Security Plan

- WSA began development work for a new regulatory approach to drainage management, including an online application process. WSA anticipates implementation in 2015-16.

Additional actions: In April 2014, the Water Security Agency reactivated the Emergency Flood Damage Reduction Program. The program provided advice and shared cost of permanent and temporary flood protection works, and providing financial assistance to 319 clients including 28 communities, 20 rural municipalities, 4 First Nations, 15 businesses and non-profits, and 252 individual residences or yardsites.

In response to flooding concerns, WSA facilitated the development of the Thickwood Hills Watershed Association, including the Town of Blaine Lake and surrounding rural municipalities. The Watershed Association will develop projects to enhance agricultural development and reduce the future impacts of floods within the watershed.

In addition, WSA facilitated the formation of five new Conservation and Development Area Associations (C&Ds) made up of groups of producers. These new C&Ds are able to take advantage of the Ministry of Agriculture's Growing Forward 2 program for implementation of multi-producer best management practices. Work will be focussed on water management in natural watercourses to address local flooding issues, while at the same time reducing erosion and sediment loading in the streams. The WSA works with the Ministry of Agriculture in the technical evaluation of the

Growing Forward 2 proposals to ensure that the projects will accomplish their end goals.

To address the high water levels at the Quill Lakes, WSA engaged Golder Associates to examine options and continued to work with local governments to develop a solution.

Strategy - Ensure Water Security Agency infrastructure safely meets water supply and management needs

To ensure adequate water supply and public safety, dams must be of adequate standard and in good operating condition. The Water Security Agency has adopted the requirements of the Canadian Dam Association in this regard.

Results

In 2014-15, WSA continued to implement its 10-year Plan for Infrastructure Rehabilitation and Dam Safety, including such activities as development of emergency response plans, dam safety reviews, and infrastructure upgrades.

Planned Action: Undertake the following dam safety activities to assess and manage the risks associated with the Water Security Agency's dams:

Prepare and test emergency response plan (ERP) for Rafferty Dam

- The Rafferty Dam ERP was completed. Testing has been rescheduled to 2015-2016 and will align with a new ERP training and testing directive developed this year.

Prepare emergency response plans for Alameda, Gardiner & Qu'Appelle River dams

- Pending completion of Rafferty Dam ERP. Completion of this activity has been scheduled to 2015-2016.

Complete an independent Dam Safety Review of Alameda Dam

- Completion of this activity is scheduled for 2015-2016.

Complete an assessment of the Inflow Design Flood requirements at Rafferty and Alameda dams

- The consultant completed a draft report for this study prior to end of 2014-2015. Completion of this activity is scheduled for 2015-2016.

Install an early warning dam breach identifications system at Rafferty, Alameda, and Qu'Appelle River dams

- Hardware has been delivered but requires installation by Environment Canada.

Prepare annual geotechnical and operation and maintenance reports for Gardiner, Qu'Appelle River, Rafferty and Alameda dams

- Three of five reports are well underway. Completion of this work is scheduled for 2015-16.

Prepare technical maintenance manuals for Gardiner, Qu'Appelle River, Rafferty and Alameda dams

- Two of the four technical maintenance manuals were drafted and work has commenced on the other two manuals. Completion of this activity has been scheduled for 2015-2016.

Complete a geotechnical assessment of Buffalo Pound Dam.

- The geotechnical assessment was completed in March 2015. The results indicate the dam embankment meets WSA's geotechnical and seismic criteria. In addition, the assessment concluded the embankment could be raised by 1.5 m and still meet geotechnical criteria with minimal change to the footprint of the embankment.

Planned Action: Continue to implement the 10-year Plan for Infrastructure Rehabilitation by rehabilitating the following priority works:

M1 Canal – Enlarge and line another ≈2.6 km of canal and rehabilitate three major structures

- Enlarged and lined another 3.2 km of canal and rehabilitated a major wasteway structure as a continuation of the planned, multi-year rehabilitation program. Constructed in the 1960s, the M1 Canal is a 22.5 km long water supply canal extending from

Lake Diefenbaker to Broderick Reservoir near Outlook. It supplies water for 55,000 acres of irrigation, six reservoirs, towns and villages, three potash mines, 13 wetlands projects and the Blackstrap Provincial Park. Rehabilitation work, when completed in 2019-20, will have renewed the canal and increased its capacity from 18.4 to 28 $m^{3/s}$, providing ability to support future growth.

Gardiner Dam – Complete electrical system upgrades for spillway gates

- This work was completed as planned.

Boundary to Rafferty Diversion Channel - Repair a major erosion area on the diversion channel which resulted from 2011 flood flows

- This work was completed as planned.

Gardiner Dam – Install an improved ventilation system and work to restore the original drainage capacity of the relief well drainage conduit

- Installation of an improved ventilation system is complete. Investigation and follow-up maintenance activities were successfully performed to restore drainage capacity.

Alameda Dam – Complete geotechnical and structural assessments and develop feasibility level options for upgrades if necessary

- All geotechnical assessment reports and the spillway structural assessment report were completed by the consultant and the low level outlet structural report was drafted. Completion of this activity has been scheduled for 2015-2016.

Planned Action: Finalize a new reservoir operating plan for Lake Diefenbaker

- This work was not completed due to hydrology staff re-assignments to drainage, peak potential studies, estimated peak water levels, Quill Lakes hydrology work, and the Spruce River Dam operating plan. To be completed in 2015-16.

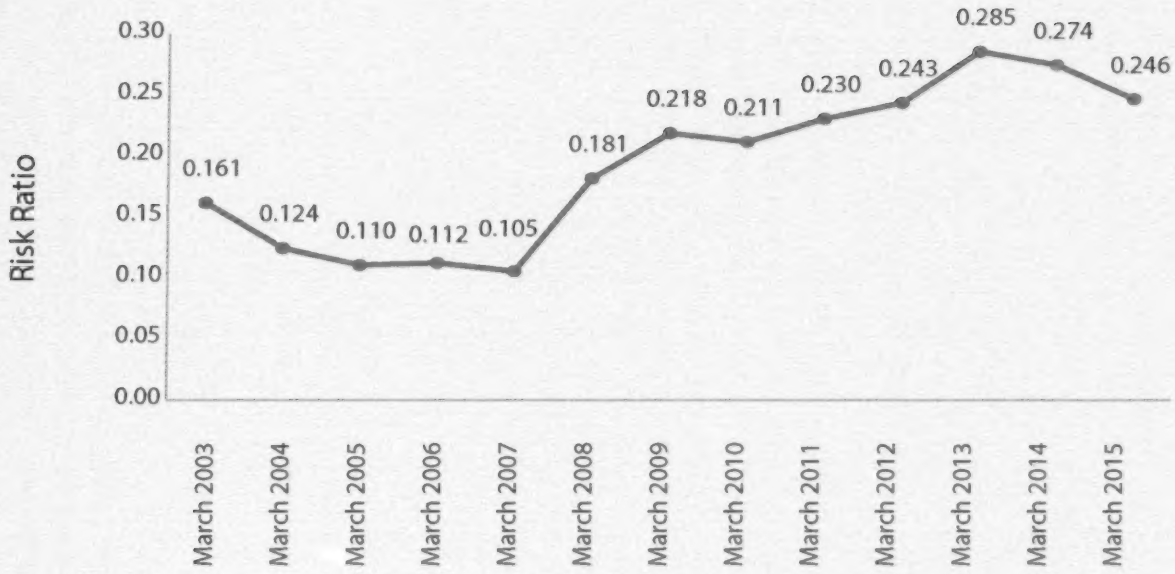
Planned Action: Manage Water Security Agency lands to meet responsibilities for ecosystem health, source water protection and infrastructure management

- Lands continue to be managed within the allocated budget.

Additional action: The WSA began work with Parks Canada to develop an operating plan for the Spruce River Dam that reflects Parks Canada's dam safety concerns and that meets provincial water use interests.

Performance Measures

Risk associated with Water Security Agency dams



Source: Water Security Agency 2015

This graph shows the risk associated with the Water Security Agency's dams by considering both the likelihood and the consequences of a dam failure. It is a measure of the safety of the dams and of progress in upgrading the dams to acceptable standards. The Water Security Agency uses the ratio of the assessed current risk to the total possible risk to establish targets and measure progress in reducing risk associated with its dams. Risk, defined as the probability of a failure multiplied by the consequences of a failure, has been assessed in relative values. The Assessed Current Risk is determined by multiplying the Failure Rating and the Consequence Rating for each structure.

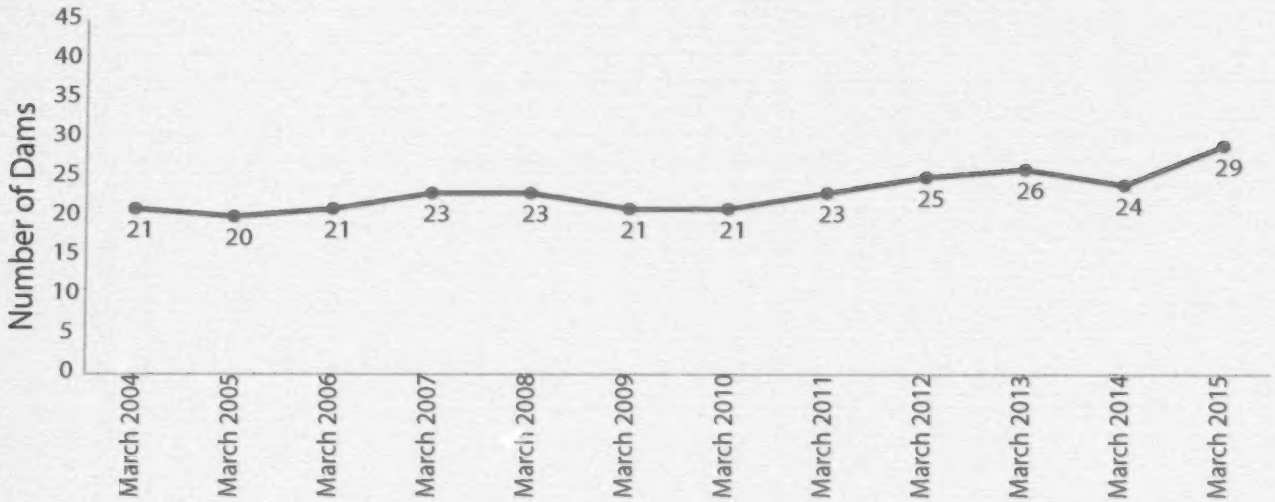
The information used to determine Failure Probability values comes from a variety of sources including annual inspections; internal and external dam safety reviews; design and assessment studies; issue identification by site staff/project operators; and review of dam performance monitoring data. Consequence ratings are assessed for each structure and based upon an estimation of life safety, economic damages and restoration costs in the case of a failure. A lower ratio indicates safer infrastructure, with a ratio of zero indicating no current assessed risk.

Numerically the risk ratio can be expressed as:
Risk Ratio=Σ Assessed Current Risk / Σ Total Possible Risk.

The risk ratio decreased slightly in 2014-15, principally due to the completion of geotechnical and structural assessments of the Rafferty, Alameda, and Theodore dams which indicate a lower risk associated with these dams. Approximately 40 per cent of the assessed current risk relates to the inability to safely pass the inflow design flood at Rafferty and Alameda dams.

Performance Measures

Number of Water Security Agency dams requiring upgrades



Source: Water Security Agency 2015

This measure quantifies the number of Water Security Agency dams which require upgrades to meet the provisions of the Dam Safety Guidelines (2007) published by the Canadian Dam Association. The Water Security Agency is responsible for the operation and maintenance of 48 dams (not including the Echo Lake Water Control Structure transferred from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada to the Water Security Agency in late 2014-15) and, like all provincial governments and major utilities across Canada, manages its works generally in accordance with these guidelines.

Depending upon the dam, a failure could have significant economic and safety consequences. However, unlike the risk ratio, this measure does not indicate the severity of the identified deficiencies. This measure is useful in gauging progress made over time to reduce the number of deficient dams.

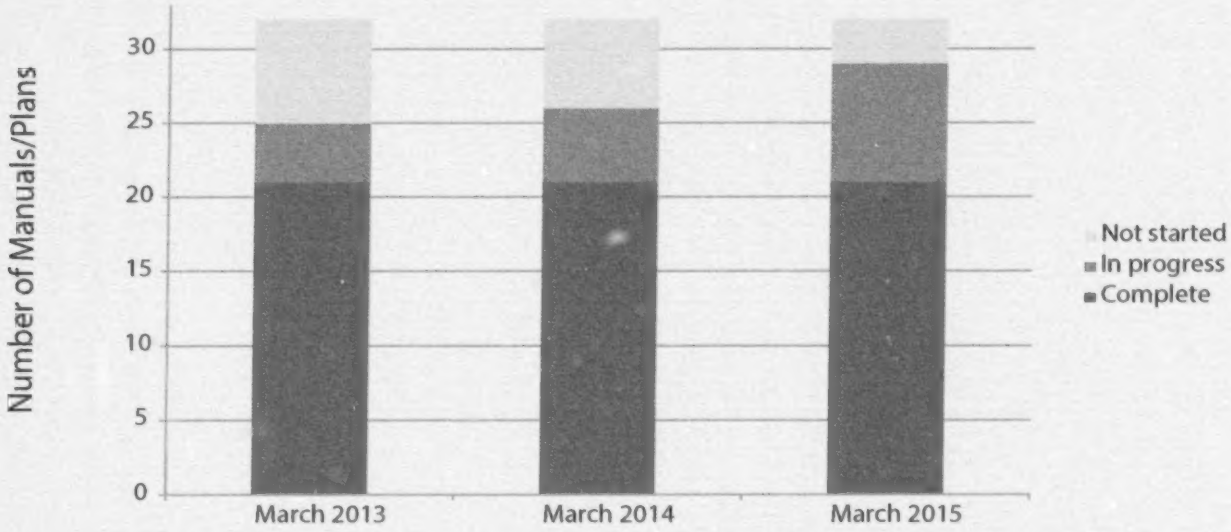
The Failure Probability of a Water Security Agency dam is assessed in terms of (a) hydrology/hydraulic, (b) geotechnical, and (c) structural/electrical/mechanical condition rating factors. These three rating factors vary from 0 (adequate) to 9 (grossly inadequate) for a maximum possible Failure Probability of 27.

A dam having at least one condition rating factor of three or greater is deemed to be a deficient dam. The information used to determine Failure Probability values comes from a variety of sources including annual inspections; internal and external dam safety reviews; design and assessment studies; issue identification by site staff/project operators; and review of dam performance monitoring data.

In 2014-15, the number of dams requiring upgrades increased from 24 to 29 structures as a result of a few additional deficiencies that were identified during routine inspections and evaluations. Two of the three dams transferred from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada were also deemed to be deficient. As with the previous measure, this measure is of interest to the government as the upgrading and safety of dams is fundamental to public safety and to dependable water supplies to support the economy.

Performance Measures

Status of required operation plans and project manuals for the Water Security Agency's four major dams



Source: Water Security Agency 2015

This measure tracks the status of operation plans and project manuals required for the Water Security Agency's four major dams. As part of the original design and construction of the four major dams (Gardiner, Qu'Appelle River, Rafferty, and Alameda), operation and maintenance manuals were provided by the Engineer-of-Record to support the safe operation of the dams. However, given the aging infrastructure, changes in water management strategies and dam safety management principles and practices, thorough updates were considered necessary and several additional manuals were required. There are a total of 32 manuals and plans required for the four major dams, including:

- Reservoir Operation Plans to describe how dams should be operated under different scenarios ranging from drought to flood conditions;
- Operation & Maintenance Manuals to detail how to operate project facilities as well as what, how and when operation tests/evaluations and routine and preventative maintenance shall be undertaken;
- Technical Maintenance Manuals to outline what systems exist to monitor/assess works performance and how and when performance monitoring is to be undertaken;
- Operation, Maintenance, and Surveillance Manuals to provide a concise summary of the detailed manuals and plans noted above.

In 2014-15, work continued on the Reservoir Operating Plans for Lake Diefenbaker, Rafferty Reservoir and Alameda Reservoir and the technical maintenance manual for Gardiner Dam. In addition, work on the Technical Maintenance Manuals for Rafferty, Alameda and Qu'Appelle River dams was initiated.

Strategy - Ensure water quality, aquatic habitat and aquatic ecosystem function are sustained

Sustaining water quality and healthy aquatic habitat and ecosystems requires careful attention to the land and water management activities that can cause damages. In addition to the management of wastewater, of particular importance are the management of non-point contaminants, implementation of agricultural best management practices, and WSA's management of its own infrastructure. Continued research into the causes of and solutions to water quality and ecosystem impairment will improve understanding of how to best address issues of concern.

Results

In 2014-15, WSA continued to regulate developments in or near water bodies, facilitate watershed planning and plan implementation, research nutrient-related water quality issues in the Qu'Appelle system, and work toward improved understanding and conservation of wetlands.

Planned Action: Protect aquatic habitat by ensuring the potential impacts of work in or near water regulated by Water Security Agency are minimized through permitting, inspections, monitoring, education and compliance follow-up

- Over 1500 applications for Aquatic Habitat Protection Permits were received during the fiscal year and over 1200 permits were approved. As of March 2015, 215 applications were under review. Compliance with Aquatic Habitat Protection Permits ensures our streams and lakes are protected.

Planned Action: Conduct second year of a planned three-year research program on water quality in the Qu'Appelle system to help understand nutrient sources and transport and develop water quality objectives

- Planned data collection is complete for the first two years of the project. Final year of data collection will be completed in 2015-16.

Planned Action: Continue community-based watershed planning by completing the development of the Old Wives Lake Source Water Protection Plan and supporting the implementation of that plan through a local stakeholder-based stewardship group

- Old Wives Lake Watershed Plan was completed in 2014 and officially released at a ceremony in Gravelbourg on December 11, 2014. The community-based stewardship group is being supported in the implementation of the Plan through a WSA core funding grant and the provision of technical and business advice by the WSA.

Planned Action: Work with the Saskatchewan Association of Watersheds (SAW) to develop and implement a strategy to define the roles and fulfill the responsibilities of watershed and aquifer stewardship groups, including development of a plan for the renewal of source water protection plans

- WSA funded a strategic business planning exercise for SAW in 2014, led by a consultant. WSA participated in the strategic business planning exercise through interviews and meetings with the consultant and SAW. WSA will continue to explore and define the WSA - SAW relationship and SAW roles and responsibilities in 2015 as a means to support effective watershed planning and plan implementation.

Planned Action: Continue to evaluate and enhance the approach to implementing source water protection plans to ensure that threats to source water are mitigated into the future

- The WSA piloted a new reporting process for watershed stewardship groups to report on their activities and finances relative to the WSA operating grants. In 2015, work will continue to finalize an improved reporting system that will assist in focusing the group's activities through work planning and providing metrics on aligning with WSA core mandate initiatives in 2015.

Planned Action: Continue to encourage and assist community-based watershed stewardship groups to facilitate implementation of beneficial land and water management practices (BMPs) to reduce non-point sources of nutrients and other contaminants to surface and ground water

- WSA continued to assist in the delivery of the Ministry of Agriculture's Growing Forward 2 program under the Federal / Provincial Growing Forward Agricultural Policy Framework by providing agrologist, water technologist and engineering and geoscience technical support to implement BMPs on the landscape.

Planned Action: Continue to partner with the Prairie Habitat Joint Venture (PHJV) to promote the conservation of wetland and associated upland habitat

- The PHJV Habitat Implementation Plan has been completed. Partner agencies are sharing existing wetland inventory information and collaborating on acquisition of new wetland inventory information. Partner agencies collaborated on delivery of wetland restoration and retention projects.

Planned Action: Continue work on a new provincial wetland policy

- Wetland policy is being considered concurrently with the development of a new approach to drainage and drainage regulations, as reported above.

Planned Action: Evaluate current minimum environmental flow objective for the Qu'Appelle River system

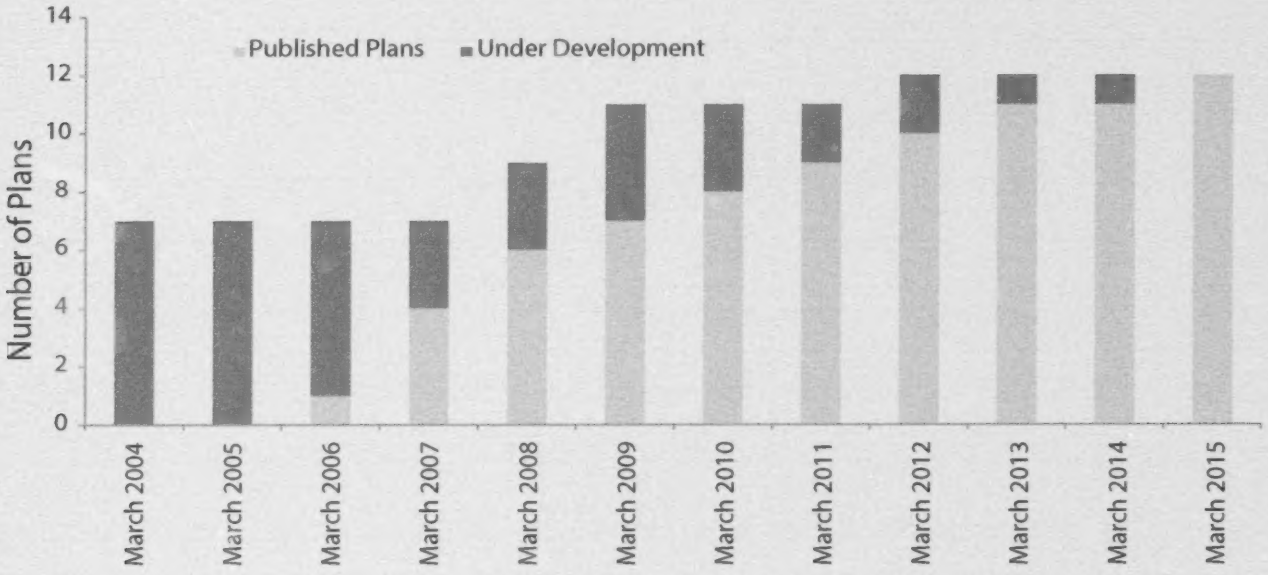
- As reported above, fish habitat models to identify minimum flows have been completed. This work indicates that the current minimum flow objective of 0.5 cubic metres per second is sufficient to maintain fish movement throughout the system.

Planned Action: Continue to annually assess impacts of water management on the Piping Plover population at Lake Diefenbaker and implement the conservation plan

- Risk of flooding peaked at 26 nests on June 20, 2014. A total of 25 nests were moved to higher elevations to avoid flooding, however seven nests still flooded. Overall 25 young fledged, for a fledging rate of 0.38 which falls below the target rate of 1.25.
- A report on 2014-15 risk reduction activities and an initial 2015-16 risk assessment have been circulated to stakeholder agencies.

Performance Measures

Number of source water protection plans under development and published



Source: Water Security Agency 2015

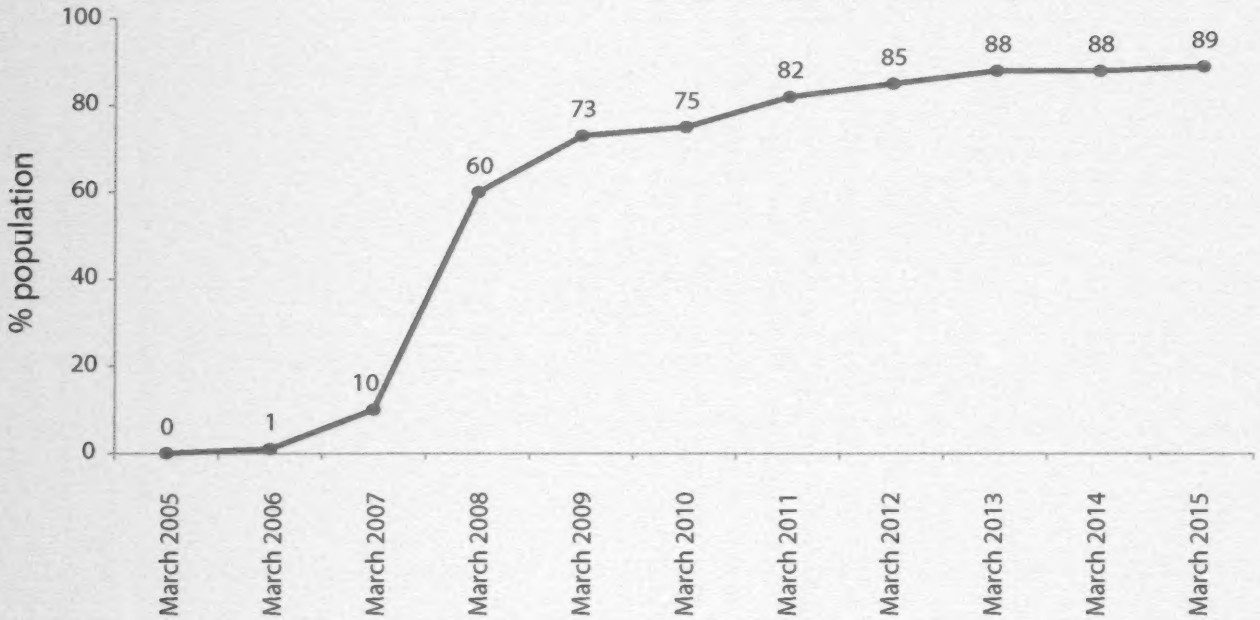
This measure is of interest to Government as an indicator of progress toward the protection of source water, thereby supporting adequate and quality water supplies. Local advisory committee representatives develop watershed or aquifer plans, with watershed plans directed at protection of surface water and aquifer plans directed at groundwater. Completed plans set water management priorities and identify emerging water issues.

The Water Security Agency leads the planning process, directly influencing this measure. Successful completion of plans is dependent on the commitment and ability of the local committee members to achieve a consensus on recommendations.

Originally, the Water Security Agency initiated seven plans and, as plans were completed and staff became available, additional planning processes were initiated. The measure illustrates that the first plan was completed in year three, and the numbers reflect that planning processes have consistently come to completion. Information used in this performance measure is derived from Water Security Agency program files.

Performance Measures

Proportion of provincial population covered by a completed source water protection plan



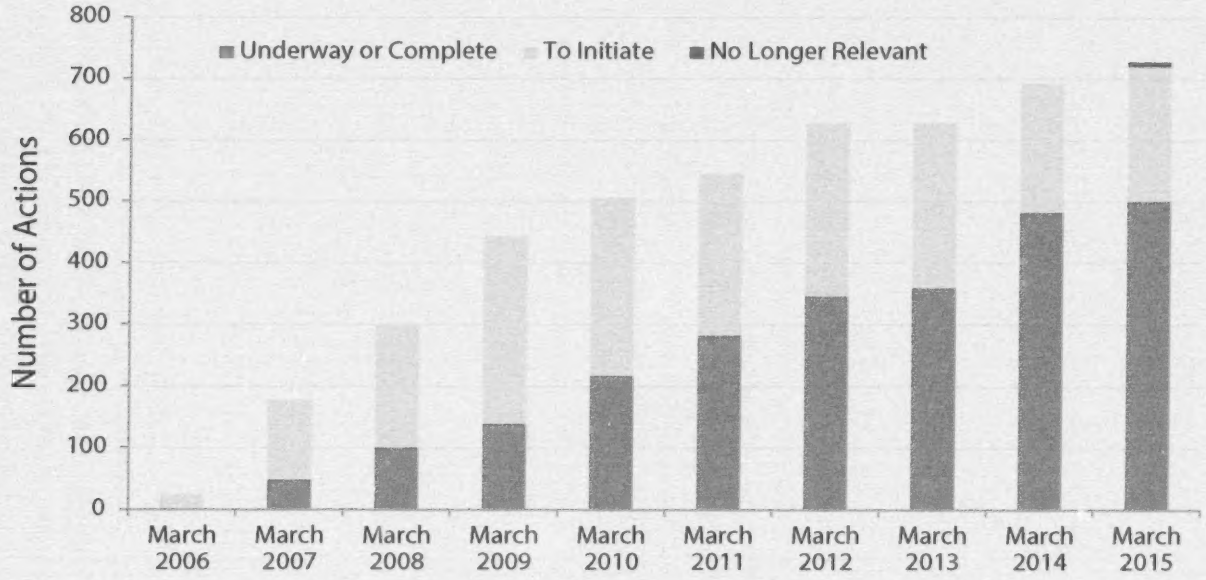
Source: Water Security Agency 2015

This measure provides meaningful context to the number of plans by adding the percentage of the population covered. The measure indicates that the Water Security Agency targeted early planning efforts at areas of highest population, and that the majority of the province's population (89 per cent) lives in an area where a planning process has been completed. Population data is derived from 2011 census of Canada data.

Government of Saskatchewan

Performance Measures

Total number of source water protection plan key actions underway or complete in the province



Source: Water Security Agency 2015

Source water protection plans identify key actions needed to protect source water. As actions are undertaken, the degree of protection of source waters within the watersheds and aquifers is expected to increase, and water threats minimized. Each key action specifies the organization(s) responsible for implementation.

Local watershed stewardship groups lead or influence others to implement actions and submit reports on progress to the Water Security Agency, and these reports are used to develop this measure.

This measure illustrates the number of key actions underway or complete. Since the first plan was completed in 2006 through to March 2015, 501 watershed protection actions have been undertaken within the planning areas. As new plans are completed, additional actions are identified, thus the total number of actions has been increasing over time. The March 2015 data has been revised since the Water Security Agency's 2013-14 Annual Report, capturing the new actions identified by the Old Wives Lake source water protection plan that was published in November 2014.

While the Water Security Agency provides funding and technical advice to the local watershed stewardship groups, it does not have direct control over completion of the majority of the identified actions and thus has limited influence over the measure.

Government Goal: Delivering Responsive and Responsible Government

In support of the goal of responsive and responsible government and in an effort to ensure that citizens are the primary focus of our work, WSA engages its clients and citizens and works within government and across jurisdictions to achieve streamlined and highly effective services, agreements, policies, and legislation. WSA also strives to provide our staff with the capacity to succeed.

Strategy - Engage and inform stakeholders and the public regarding water issues

Engaging citizens and communities improves water management decisions. Local interests and perspectives are important considerations in decision making and engaging and informing citizens and local authorities improves water stewardship.

Results

In 2014-15, WSA continued to work closely with local communities and citizens, in particular in response to the flooding issues that arose in summer 2014. WSA also engaged stakeholders in extensive discussions around drainage management, to ensure that the new approach considers the full range of interests.

Planned Action: Work with the Provincial Water Council to ensure an understanding of stakeholder perspectives on key issues and initiatives

- The Council is not yet in place. Water Security Agency expects the Council will be created in 2015.

Planned Action: Review and revise protocols for informing the public during water-related emergencies

- Water Security Agency participated in the test phase of SaskAlert, a new emergency public alerting program supported by the federal, provincial and territorial governments. SaskAlert will provide critical information on emergency events as they are occurring, enabling the public to take action to protect themselves, their family and their property. This system includes public and consumer notification in the event of waterworks or sewage works upsets.
- A protocol review is nearing completion. The protocol will ensure that the alert classification is consistent for each of the WSA-prompted alerts in the SaskAlert system. This ensures the same kind of information, level of detail and alert classification is in each alert, and across similar alerts, for consistency and quality.

Additional Action: Stakeholder consultation meetings were held in February and March 2015 to discuss a new approach to drainage management. Along with results of the Online Drainage Forum and survey, this feedback has been incorporated into draft drainage regulations and development of the new approach.

Strategy - Work cooperatively with other governments and government agencies to ensure effective water management in Saskatchewan

Water crosses provincial and national boundaries and interjurisdictional management with the federal government, other provinces and territories and with the United States is central to our water security. Coordinated planning and decision making bodies and improved collaborative approaches help to prevent interjurisdictional issues.

Results

In 2014-15, WSA continued to work with other jurisdictions to promote shared processes and fulfillment of water management agreements. Key initiatives include the Prairie Provinces Water Board (Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Alberta and Canada), the International Souris River Board (Saskatchewan, Manitoba, North Dakota, United States and Canada), and the Mackenzie River Basin Board (Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia, Yukon, Northwest Territories, and Canada).

Planned Action: Support the work of the Council of the Federation Water Stewardship Council working group to develop and implement strategies for national sharing of water information and data

- Completed the posting of links to Saskatchewan water management information on the Council of the Federation, Water Stewardship InfoStream website. This website was developed for the sharing of water information across Canada.

Planned Action: Ensure all obligations under transboundary water sharing agreements, including the Prairie Provinces Water Board (PPWB), are met

- The PPWB meets regularly to share information and discuss interprovincial water management concerns. The drainage task force and investigation of sediment issue on the Carrot River are examples of jurisdictions working together to resolve issues.

Planned Action: Work with the PPWB Committee on Groundwater to finalize a groundwater sharing agreement. Specifically, continue to work with the PPWB through to Board Approval of Schedule F

- An advanced draft of Schedule F, a framework to address interprovincial groundwater issues in the prairie provinces, has been developed and is awaiting legal review and ultimately consideration by PPWB Ministers.

Planned Action: Review fish tissue data and monitoring program for PPWB sites. Develop PPWB management response protocol for water quality and fish tissue objective excursions

- PPWB monitors water quality on eastward flowing streams. Monitoring fish tissue to determine contaminant levels, along with water quality data, can indicate potential risks to human and environmental health and point to where management responses may be required. WSA continued to work with the PPWB on development of management response protocol to water quality and fish tissue objective excursions.

Planned Action: Continue to work with the International Souris River Board of the International Joint Commission and the Task Force to establish an enhanced operating plan for Rafferty and Alameda reservoirs

- The International Souris River Board has struck a subcommittee to examine enhancing the operating plans for Rafferty and Alameda reservoirs. The subcommittee has worked on clarifying associated 1989 Agreement language and drafting enhanced operating plans to better meet the interests of all parties.

Planned Action: In compliance with the International Souris River Basin Agreement, continue to collect and assess water quality data from critical sites to determine ecosystem health status and trends and inform decision making

- Collection and assessment of water quality data continues from critical sites.

Planned Action: Co-chair the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment Water Management Committee, establish priority work activities that support Saskatchewan's water issues, and review and manage approval processes for publishing reports developed by the committee

- Saskatchewan successfully completed our two year term as Chair of the Water Management Committee at the end of the fiscal year.

Planned Action: Complete negotiation of the Saskatchewan-Alberta Bilateral Water Management Agreement to fulfill the obligations of the Mackenzie River Basin Transboundary Waters Master Agreement. Initiate discussions with the Northwest Territories on development of a bilateral water management agreement and represent Saskatchewan on the Mackenzie River Basin Board.

- Progress continues towards the completion of the Alberta/Saskatchewan bilateral water management agreement. An advanced draft is under internal review and discussion with Alberta will follow. The first meeting to develop a similar agreement with the Northwest Territories was held and further discussion is planned. Activities are on track to complete both bilateral water management agreements by the end of 2015.

Planned Action: To ensure the terms of the 1921 Order for the St. Mary and Milk rivers are met, provide technical assistance to assist in the development of apportionment release plans, meet apportionment requirements and liaise with the governments of Montana, Alberta, and Canada, as well as with local irrigation districts

- The Water Security Agency is responsible for water management and must direct the operation of the Saskatchewan reservoirs and diversions to ensure that Canada does not take more than its entitlement in any balance period. Saskatchewan met its obligations in 2014-15.

Strategy - Work toward reconciliation in water management while meeting legal responsibilities for consultation and accommodation regarding First Nations and Métis communities

Engaging with First Nations and Métis communities is important to water management. First Nations and Métis consultation, collaboration, and engagement are all important in making informed decisions about the management of water in Saskatchewan.

Results

In 2014-15, WSA continued to engage First Nations and Métis communities in water management issues relevant to them and to ensure that WSA initiatives are assessed in terms of potential impacts on aboriginal or treaty rights.

Planned Action: Work toward improved models for engagement with First Nations and Métis communities by providing appropriate staff with the knowledge and experience required to facilitate effective working relationships

- A proposal for building staff knowledge has been drafted and is designed to augment program and policy information with expertise in collaborative problem solving skills and interest-based processes.

Planned Action: Implement First Nations flood claim agreements in the Qu'Appelle Valley

- Part of the settlement of the Qu'Appelle Flood Claims included Tripartite Agreements, one with each of the settlement bands. The individual Tripartite Agreements among Canada, the respective First Nations and Saskatchewan provide that Saskatchewan will conduct an environmental baseline study to determine the state of the land that Saskatchewan is entitled to flood through operation of the control structures on each of Echo Lake and Crooked Lake. The baseline study shows the condition of the land at the date of implementation of the Agreements. It will be referred to in the future if and when the structure on the relevant lake is decommissioned. At that time, the land is to be brought back to the state shown by the baseline study. The WSA worked on drafting a proposal on the tendering of work to have the Baseline Studies completed. Once approved, a Request for Tenders will be posted to SaskTenders.

Planned Action: Implement the water management agreements with Qu'Appelle Valley First Nations

- Part of the settlement of the Qu'Appelle Flood Claims included an agreement with the First Nations to set up a Board to share information related to water quality in the Qu'Appelle in specific areas relevant to the First Nations on each of Pasqua and Crooked lakes. The process starts by the establishment of a Non-Profit Corporation and the naming of two representatives from Saskatchewan and each of the First Nations. Implementation of Pasqua Lake and Crooked Lake Agreements is expected early in the new fiscal year.

Planned Action: Continue consultations with Fishing Lake First Nation on the Fishing Lake Emergency Channel Project

- This action is in the fourth year of a five-year monitoring program. The Water Security Agency continues to monitor the impacts of the channel project and is arranging a meeting with Fishing Lake First Nation to help identify any concerns the community may have.

Planned Action: Engage First Nations, Métis and stakeholders in the Mackenzie River Basin in discussions on finalization of the Mackenzie River Basin Bilateral Agreement with Alberta and initiate discussions around the development of an agreement with NWT

- One consultation was performed in 2014-2015 on invitation by the Black Lake First Nation.

Planned Action: Continue to consult with First Nations and rights-bearing Métis communities where the Water Security Agency is planning work that may impact aboriginal or treaty rights

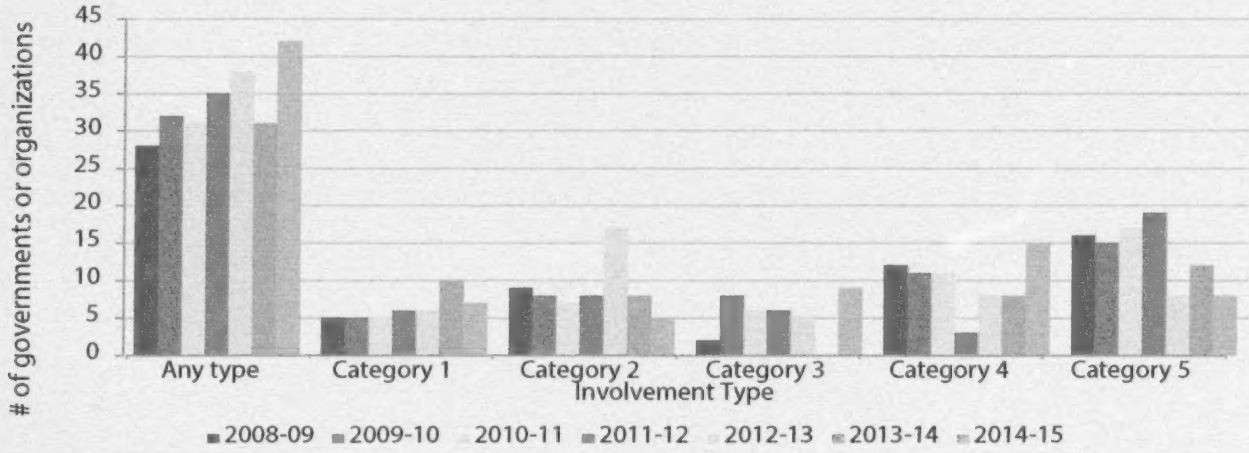
- The Water Security Agency undertook pre-consultation assessments of regulatory approvals or planning decisions and reached out to the relevant First Nation and Métis Local governments to help identify and avoid or reduce any potential adverse impacts to treaty or aboriginal rights.

Planned Action: Work with community-based watershed stewardship groups to engage and involve First Nations communities in activities around watershed management

- WSA continues to encourage watershed stewardship groups to engage their local First Nations and Métis communities in their annual watershed stewardship activities.

Performance Measures

Number of First Nations and Metis governments or organizations with whom the Water Security Agency is involved



Source: Water Security Agency 2015

First Nation and Métis interest in water availability and quality continues to grow and may result in conflicts over use, especially in areas with water shortages. Proactive relationship building will help reduce future conflicts and contribute toward positive water management alliances. The number of organizations and / or government bodies with whom the Water Security Agency, at a minimum, has a two-way dialogue, is a simple measure of the Water Security Agency efforts to build relationships. While some relationships, such as formal duty to consult reported as category 2, are legal requirements, others such as those reported in categories 4 and 5 show Water Security Agency working to build relationships. Water Security Agency staff report this information on an annual basis, and the comprehensive results are summarized here.

For this measure, the total number of governments or organizations with whom the Water Security Agency is directly involved is presented, along with a breakdown according to categories of involvement, as follows:

Any type: This is the total number of First Nations and Métis communities or organizations the Water Security Agency is involved with in any of the categories. The Water Security Agency may have more than one category of involvement with any given community or organization; therefore, this does not represent a sum of the five broken-out categories.

Category 1. This includes formal Province – First Nations / Métis agreements or negotiation discussions underway or agreement in place

Category 2. This include formal consultations (activities specific to legal duty to consult requirements)

Category 3. This includes advisory board or committee participation such as representation on Water Security Agency planning or advisory committees

Category 4. This includes community-based projects / initiatives under development or already in place

Category 5. This includes information exchange and relationship-building, such as informal discussions with community / organization representatives and feedback received about Water Security Agency initiatives

The 2014-15 measurement results indicate the Water Security Agency is directly involved with 42 First Nations and Métis governments or organizations, which represents an increase year-over-year and supports a positive long-term trend. A decrease in formal consultations (category 2) is largely a result of fewer Water Security Agency strategic planning initiatives.

Strategy - Improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the Water Security Agency's legislation, policies and services

To WSA, working efficiently means delivering high-quality programs and services to citizens while reducing the cost of delivery. This can be achieved in many ways. Modifying current rules and processes, changing our service delivery method, and empowering front-line staff to make decisions and implement innovations are all ways that efficiencies can be achieved.

Working effectively means improving long-term outcomes for people and the environment.

Results

In 2014-15, WSA continued to work to improve its regulations, programs and processes in order to better achieve its mandate and serve citizens. Major work was done toward the reduction of regulatory red tape with regard to drainage works and reservoir development areas and in streamlining the Aquatic Habitat Protection Permit process.

Planned Action: Continue development of modern and comprehensive water legislation

- As a first step in developing modern and comprehensive water legislation, drainage legislation development is underway.
- Several regulations were in process of being modernized and amendments are expected to be in force in summer 2015. These include *The Reservoir Development Area Regulations* and *The Drainage Control Regulations*.

Planned Action: Develop a results-based regulation on Aquatic Habitat Protection permitting related activities

- Results-based regulation for Aquatic Habitat Protection permitting is not currently being pursued as it does not appear to be compatible with the majority of WSA clients.

Planned Action: Conduct Lean reviews of programs and services to identify and implement gains in efficiency, following an established schedule

- Lean reviews focused on the Aquatic Habitat Protection permitting process, including the development of a more client-friendly application form. Work began toward implementing recommendations.

Planned Action: Complete third year of a four-year schedule to review all Water Security Agency programs for efficiency and effectiveness

- Program review continued on schedule, resulting in a number of recommendations to improve program delivery. Examples include more timely collection of flood hazard assessment information, more effective incorporation of instream flow considerations into decision-making, and identification of several opportunities for Lean reviews to improve client service
- The program review process was evaluated and adjusted based on experience and a new four-year schedule was prepared.

Strategy - Attract and retain professional staff by supporting employee development, stimulating employee engagement and enabling employees to succeed

The Water Security Agency recognizes the importance of attracting and retaining professional staff. Good employer obligations around leadership, accountability, culture, recruitment, development, recognition, flexibility, health, and safety are all areas the Water Security Agency endeavours to improve upon.

Results

In 2014-15, WSA made strong advances toward improving employee onboarding, occupational health and safety, and corporate culture.

Planned Action: Continue implementation and monitoring of the five-year Human Resources Management Strategy to ensure alignment with the goals of the Water Security Agency, and the strategic direction for the public service and the delivery of human resource functions with a focus on client service

- As a result of the five-year Human Resources Strategy the WSA revised select policies for both in-scope and out-of-scope positions to improve efficiencies and employee engagement. Where required, job descriptions were revised and formal ratings were conducted to improve employee engagement and increase staff retention.

Planned Action: Implement phase 1 of the Performance Management Project for management employees, including providing training and support and monitoring participation

- This action was re-evaluated and revised to include work planning for all employees. Work began on the development of an individual workplan template that will include a section on training and support for career objectives and monitoring expectations for measuring performance. Implementation is expected in 2015-16.

Planned Action: Implement the on-boarding program for new employees, and ensure the Agency's recruitment activities are undertaken in accordance with best practices

- Two HR staff were hired to, in part, assist with onboarding and recruitment. Practices and procedures are regularly reviewed to ensure best practices and efficiency. An official "meet and greet" was introduced to allow the executive management team to engage with new employees, introducing new staff to the organization and its leaders.

Planned Action: Continue support of staff training and career development, and use employee training and development to support succession management.

- Continued to support technical, interpersonal, supervisory, management and leadership development through numerous conferences, courses and seminars, although, spending restraints limited what was provided in Q4.

Planned Action: Undertake hazard and risk assessments for key corporate branches, and ensure the implementation of an Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) employee orientation process is consistent and integrated with the corporate on-boarding program, and that the implications of The Saskatchewan Employment Act and Regulations are integrated, as required, into the corporate OHS Program

- Assessment of activities of WSA's Water Quality Unit has been undertaken as has an assessment of operational activities at WSA's Crooked Lake Control Structure.
- Significant attention is paid to OH&S orientation in WSA's on-boarding program for summer student employees. Work towards OH&S orientation of new permanent employees will be revisited in 2015-16.
- A draft Strategic Safety Plan has been prepared which incorporates requirements of *The Saskatchewan Employment Act* and *Regulations*.

Planned Action: Implement a Culture Sustainment Plan to enhance internal communications, employee recognition, and instill our commitment to excellence

- The Culture Committee met regularly to ensure the Culture Sustainment Plan initiatives were met. A baseline staff engagement survey was conducted in Q3 to get feedback on staff engagement. A staff conference with a focus on corporate culture was held in Q3. The president's awards, based on culture shifts, were awarded to staff at the conference.

2014-15 Financial Overview

Water Security Agency operations resulted in a $9.6 million surplus this year. Revenues were $18.5 million greater than budgeted. The main reasons for the increased revenue were a one-time, $11.7 million payment from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, related to the transfer of a water control structure to Water Security Agency, and water power revenue being $5.8 million above budget due to high flows. Water Security Agency received an increase in General Revenue Funding of $2.1 million over the previous year and water revenue increased by $2.7 million.

Expenses for regular operations, at $36.8 million, were $6.6 million below budget. Enforcement costs were lower than budgeted and staff vacancies during the year resulted in lower salary costs, as well as reduced program activities and related costs. In some cases, staff were redirected from regular program work to the flood relief program. Some of the vacancies and reductions in expenses were driven by the December 2014 request by the Premier to exercise restraint.

In previous years, the Water Security Agency was provided $67 million in Emergency Flood Damage Reduction Program funding, of which $18.3 million remained at March 31, 2014. These remaining funds covered the $10.9 million Emergency Flood Damage Reduction Program expenditures in 2014-15.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

The accompanying financial statements are the responsibility of the management of the Water Security Agency. Management maintains a system of accounting and administrative controls to ensure that accurate and reliable financial statements are prepared and to obtain reasonable assurance that transactions are authorized, assets are safeguarded, and financial records are maintained.

These statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards, using management's best estimates and judgement when appropriate.

The Water Security Agency's external auditor, Deloitte LLP, expresses an independent opinion on these statements. Their report provides the scope of their audit and states their opinion.

The Water Security Agency Board has approved these financial statements. The Annual Report, which includes these financial statements, is tabled in the Legislative Assembly.

On behalf of the Water Security Agency

Wayne Dybvig
President

Irene Hrynkiw
Executive Director, Corporate Services

WATER SECURITY AGENCY

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

March 31, 2015

Government of Saskatchewan

Deloitte LLP
2103 - 11th Avenue
Mezzanine Level
Bank of Montreal Building
Regina, SK S4P 3Z8
Canada

Tel: 306-565-5200
Fax: 306-757-4753
www.deloitte.ca

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Water Security Agency, which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2015, and the statements of operations and accumulated surplus, change in net financial assets, and cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements
Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility
Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion
In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Water Security Agency as at March 31, 2015, and the results of its operations, changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

Emphasis of Matter
Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 16 to the financial statements, which explains that certain comparative information for the year ended March 31, 2014 has been restated.

Deloitte LLP

Chartered Professional Accountants

May 28, 2015
Regina, Saskatchewan

WATER SECURITY AGENCY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT MARCH 31
($ thousands)

	2015	2014 (Restated - see Note 16)
FINANCIAL ASSETS		
Cash	$ 85,396	$ 85,046
Accounts receivable	22,384	9,377
	107,780	94,423
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	9,385	10,685
Deferred revenue (Note 5)	-	92
Employee future benefits (Note 6)	1,052	1,014
Current portion of long-term debt (Note 7)	3,460	2,026
Long-term debt (Note 7)	29,775	18,128
	43,672	31,945
NET FINANCIAL ASSETS	64,108	62,478
NON FINANCIAL ASSETS		
Tangible capital assets (Note 8)	322,020	313,946
Prepaid expenses and supplies	314	363
	322,334	314,309
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS	$ 386,442	$ 376,787

Commitments and contingencies (Note 10)

See accompanying notes

On behalf of the Board:

Director

Government of Saskatchewan

WATER SECURITY AGENCY

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND ACCUMULATED SURPLUS
YEAR ENDED MARCH 31
($ thousands)

	Budget (Note 13)	2015	2014 (Restated - see Note 16)
REVENUE			
Government of Saskatchewan			
- General Revenue Fund	$ 17,544	$ 17,544	$ 15,480
- Fish and Wildlife Development Fund	828	-	828
Water revenue	20,218	26,086	23,406
Contract revenue (Schedule 1)	695	524	558
Other (Note 14)	1,170	14,785	30,288
	40,455	58,939	70,560
EXPENSES (Schedule 2)			
Corporate services	4,982	4,241	4,429
Regional services	6,375	5,534	5,983
Water use and licensing	1,073	1,094	1,131
Infrastructure management - engineering and dam safety	6,605	5,352	4,487
Watershed planning and implementation	2,564	1,474	2,508
Water quality services	2,800	3,203	2,741
Hydrology and groundwater services	3,503	3,141	3,316
Strategic integration and administration	2,197	1,889	974
Drinking water and wastewater management	6,817	5,183	4,787
Interest	1,299	802	499
Amortization of tangible capital assets	5,250	4,912	4,536
	43,465	36,825	35,391
Surplus (deficit) for the year before the following	(3,010)	22,114	35,169
Revenue related to flood relief projects (Note 4)	-	698	19,286
Expenses related to flood relief projects (Note 4)	-	13,157	16,397
Surplus (deficit) related to flood relief projects	-	(12,459)	2,889
Surplus (deficit) for the year	(3,010)	9,655	38,058
Accumulated surplus – beginning of year, as previously reported (Note 16)	337,819	375,626	337,819
Prior period adjustment (Note 16)	-	1,161	910
Accumulated surplus – beginning of year, as restated	337,819	376,787	338,729
Accumulated surplus – end of year, as restated	$ 334,809	$ 386,442	$ 376,787

See accompanying notes

WATER SECURITY AGENCY

STATEMENT OF CHANGE IN NET FINANCIAL ASSETS
YEAR ENDED MARCH 31
($ thousands)

	Budget (Note 13)	2015	2014 (Restated - see Note 16)
Surplus (deficit) for the year	$ (3,010)	$ 9,655	$ 38,058
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	(16,240)	(12,986)	(11,979)
Amortization of tangible capital assets	5,250	4,912	4,536
Gain on sale of tangible capital assets	-	(7)	(16)
Proceeds on sale of tangible capital assets	-	7	24
	(14,000)	1,581	30,623
Net consumption of prepaid expenses and supplies	-	49	54
Increase (decrease) in net financial assets	(14,000)	1,630	30,677
Net financial assets – beginning of year	20,269	62,478	31,801
Net financial assets – end of year	$ 6,269	$ 64,108	$ 62,478

See accompanying notes

Government of Saskatchewan

WATER SECURITY AGENCY

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
YEAR ENDED MARCH 31
($ thousands)

	2015	2014 (Restated - see Note 16)
CASH PROVIDED BY (USED IN)		
OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
Surplus, for the year	$ 9,655	$ 38,058
Items not affecting cash:		
Amortization of tangible capital assets	4,912	4,536
Gain on sale of tangible capital assets	(7)	(16)
Net change in non-cash balances relating to operations:		
Accounts receivable	(13,007)	(1,834)
Prepaid expenses and supplies	49	54
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(1,300)	1,492
Employee future benefits	38	(135)
Deferred revenue	(92)	13
	248	42,168
CAPITAL ACTIVITIES:		
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	(12,986)	(11,979)
Proceeds on sale of tangible capital assets	7	24
	(12,979)	(11,955)
FINANCING ACTIVITIES:		
Proceeds from loan payable	15,565	9,115
Principal portion of loan repaid in year	(2,484)	(1,464)
	13,081	7,651
Increase in cash, during the year	350	37,864
Cash – beginning of year	85,046	47,182
Cash – end of year	$ 85,396	$ 85,046

See accompanying notes

1. STATUS OF THE WATER SECURITY AGENCY

The Water Security Agency (WSA), which was originally established as the Saskatchewan Watershed Authority on October 1, 2002, was continued under the **Water Security Agency Act,** on October 1, 2012. It is a Treasury Board Crown corporation within the meaning of **The Crown Corporations Act, 1993**.

WSA is mandated to integrate all aspects of provincial water management to ensure water supplies support economic growth, quality of life and environmental well being. WSA supports protection of drinking water, flood and drought response, and management of water supplies, water quality and aquatic habitat. WSA owns and operates provincial dams and water supply channels.

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards. The following accounting standards are considered to be significant:

Tangible Capital Assets
Tangible capital assets are recorded at cost. Internally provided engineering and technical services are capitalized at charge out rates designed to recover salaries, benefits and overhead. The objective of this policy is to recognize the approximate value of design, supervision and administrative services rendered by WSA employees on construction projects. As well, WSA capitalizes interest expense on debt relating to specific construction projects. Amortization of assets under development will commence once they are operational and available for use. Water infrastructure assets include land and earthen dams, which are not amortized because they do not degrade over time, if adequately maintained. Charges for amortization are calculated at the following annual rates:

Tangible Capital Assets	Method	Rate
Buildings	straight-line	4%
Leasehold improvements	straight-line over term of lease	
Maintenance equipment	diminishing balance or straight-line, as appropriate	15% to 30%
Office equipment	straight-line	10% to 50%
Water infrastructure	straight-line	1.67% to 20%

Government of Saskatchewan Grants
Under the authority of **The Water Security Agency Act,** WSA receives grants from the General Revenue Fund out of monies appropriated by the legislature or authorized by Order in Council. These grants are recorded as revenue when received or receivable and are used to fund grant programs, water management infrastructure rehabilitation and operations.

Government of Saskatchewan

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Revenue Recognition

Contractual revenue received by WSA for specific purposes is recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Water revenue is recognized as revenue in the year it is consumed. Other revenue includes: licenses, fees, permits, interest income, a service contract with SaskWater, a return of funds held in escrow and a transfer from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada. These revenues are recognized in the year they are earned.

Grants to Clients

Grants provided to clients for a variety of programs are recorded as an expense to WSA, when any eligibility criteria have been met and final approval for the grant payment is made. Where WSA enters into contractual agreements for project construction under various assistance programs, expenses are accounted for on an accrual basis.

Employee Future Benefits

WSA administers a benefit relating to a retirement allowance which is paid to eligible employees upon retirement. WSA has adopted the accrual method of accounting for this benefit whereby the cost of providing the benefits is recorded when the related services of employees are performed. WSA's employees participate in the Capital Pension Plan which is a multi-employer plan. WSA's contibutions to the pension plan are expensed as incurred.

Measurement Uncertainty

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian public sector accounting standards requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenditures during the reporting period. Significant areas requiring the use of management estimates relate to the useful lives of assets for amortization periods and employee future benefits.

Financial Instruments

All financial instruments are initially recognized at fair value. The fair value of a financial instrument is the amount of consideration that would be agreed upon in an arm's-length transaction between knowledgeable, willing parties who are under no compulsion to act. The carrying amounts of these instruments approximates fair value due to their short-term nature.

Remeasurement Gains and Losses

These financial statements do not include a Statement of Remeasurement Gains and Losses as WSA has had no gains or losses due to remeasurement.

3. NEW STANDARDS AND AMENDMENTS TO STANDARDS

The following new standard, effective for annual periods beginning on or after April 1, 2014, has been analyzed in preparing these financial statements:

- PS 3260 Liability for Contaminated Sites

The prospective adoption of this standard had no material impact on the financial statements.

A number of new standards and amendments to standards which may impact the Agency are not yet effective for the year ended March 31, 2015, and have not been applied in preparing these financial statements.

The following new standards and amendments to standards are effective for financial statements on or after January 1, 2017:

- Introduction to public sector accounting standards

The following new standards and amendments to standards are effective for financial statements on or after April 1, 2017:

- PS 2200 Related party disclosures
- PS 3420 Inter-entity transactions
- PS 3210 Assets
- PS 3320 Contingent Assets
- PS 3380 Contractual Rights

The following new standard is effective for financial statements on or after April 1, 2018:

- PS 3430 Restructurings

The extent of the impact on adoption of these standards is not known at this time.

4. FLOOD RELIEF PROJECTS

Flooding during 2011 was unprecedented in its magnitude, extent and duration across the agricultural zone of Saskatchewan. An "Emergency Flood Damage Reduction Program" (EFDRP) was implemented by the Province to provide, on a cost-shared basis, funding to assist individuals and communities with flood preparation. WSA was allocated the funds to lead this program on behalf of the Province. As well, WSA is reimbursed by Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) for assistance provided to First Nations to combat flood damage. WSA is also leading the work, on behalf of the Province, related to long-term solutions to flooding at Fishing and Waldsea Lakes. Flood issues have been ongoing in 2012, 2013 and 2014.

WSA recognized the following funding for flood relief initiatives:

	2015	2014
General Revenue Fund - Emergency Flood Damage	$ -	$ 17,000
Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada	698	2,286
	$ 698	$ 19,286

Government of Saskatchewan

4. FLOOD RELIEF PROJECTS (continued)

WSA recognized the following expenses for flood relief initiatives:

	2015	2014
Emergency Flood Damage Reduction Program	$ 10,955	$ 12,332
Fishing and Waldsea Lakes	1,609	1,673
Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada	593	2,392
	$ 13,157	$ 16,397

5. DEFERRED REVENUE

	2015	2014
Balance, beginning of year	$ 92	$ 79
Contractual revenues received	-	50
Recognition of prior year deferred revenue	(92)	(37)
Balance, end of year	$ -	$ 92

6. EMPLOYEE FUTURE BENEFITS

The amounts related to the defined benefit retiring allowance are as follows:

	2015	2014
Accrued benefit liability	$ 1,052	$ 1,014
Benefits paid during the year	$ 108	$ 167
Net expense	$ 146	$ 32

The significant actuarial assumptions adopted in measuring WSA's accrued benefit liability at March 31 are:

	2015	2014
Discount rate	2.90%	3.60%
Inflation rate	2.50%	2.50%
Salary increase	2.00%	2.00%
Average remaining service life	10.8 years	10.9 years

For 2015, the mortality assumption is based on the 2014 Canadian Pensioner Mortality Table (CPM2014) using the CPM Improvement Scale B, for the private sector without size adjustment factors. This is a change from 2014, where the mortality assumption was based on the CPM for the public sector. The change was made due to the results of a comprehensive study which suggested that the private sector table better reflected actual experience than the public sector table, for large public service pension plans in Saskatchewan. The change did not have a material effect on the results at March 31, 2015.

7. LONG-TERM DEBT

	2015	2014
Conexus Credit Union 2006 - ten year loan bearing interest at 3.98% per annum, due March, 2021	$ 1,747	$ 1,999
Bank of Montreal - ten year loan bearing interest at 3.40% per annum, due March, 2022	3,024	3,400
	5,286	5,900
National Bank of Canada - ten year loan bearing interest at 3.51%, due December, 2023	8,071	8,855
Bank of Montreal - ten year loan bearing interest at 3.03% per annum, due December, 2024	15,107	-
Total Debt	33,235	20,154
Less: Current portion of long-term debt	3,460	2,026
	$ 29,775	$ 18,128

Long-term debt repayments in each of the next five years are as follows:

2015	$ 3,460
2016	3,573
2017	3,688
2018	3,808
2019	3,931
Thereafter	14,775
	$ 33,235

Government of Saskatchewan

8. TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS

	Cost	Accumulated Amortization	Net Book Value	Net Book Value (Restated - see Note 16)
Land	$ 5,155	$ -	$ 5,155	$ 5,155
Buildings and leasehold improvements	1,858	1,115	743	937
Maintenance equipment	3,819	2,846	973	912
Office equipment	2,449	1,978	471	587
Water infrastructure	424,832	110,154	314,678	306,355
	$ 438,113	$ 116,093	$ 322,020	$ 313,946

Included in tangible capital assets are assets under construction worth $8,744 (2014 - $7,027).

9. GRANTS TO CLIENTS

Included in expenses are grants or assistance provided to various persons and organizations to carry out a variety of programs administered by WSA. Particulars of these grants, by program, are as follows:

	2015	2014
Flood Control and Drainage	$ 961	$ 1,184
Emergency Flood Damage Reduction Program	7,200	10,643
Toilet Replacement Rebate	-	(2)
Watershed Implementation Grants	994	1,071
Stewardship - Water Quality	294	117
	$ 9,449	$ 13,013

10. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

Contractual Commitments

As of March 31, 2015, WSA has outstanding commitments of $7,009 (2014 - $5,460) for construction contracts, consulting agreements, software licensing, watershed funding agreements and other services. Within various contractual agreements, WSA has committed to provide in-kind services. If contracts were terminated, WSA's only liability would be for actual costs incurred to date.

Leases

WSA has entered into various operating lease agreements with the following minimum lease payments:

2016	$ 1,630
2017	1,595
2018	1,646
2019	1,611
2020	1,123
Thereafter	1,459
	$ 9,064

Litigation

Water Security Agency is party to eleven lawsuits (2014 - eleven), related to various water management issues. The outcome of these lawsuits cannot be determined therefore no amounts have been allowed for settlement in these statements.

11. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Included in these financial statements are transactions with various Saskatchewan Crown corporations, ministries, agencies, boards and commissions related to WSA by virtue of common control by the Government of Saskatchewan and non-Crown corporations and enterprises subject to joint control or significant influence by the Government of Saskatchewan (collectively referred to as "related parties").

Routine operating transactions with related parties are settled at prevailing market prices under normal trade terms. These transactions and amounts outstanding at year end, are as follows:

	2015	2014 (Restated - see Note 16)
Water, contract and other revenue	$ 24,588	$ 22,851
Purchases	5,644	4,888
Accounts receivable	6,023	5,329
Accounts payable	899	3,510

Details of amounts and transactions due to and from related parties and the terms of settlement are described separately in these financial statements and the notes thereto.

Government of Saskatchewan

12. PENSION PLAN

WSA's employees participate in the Capital Pension Plan (the Plan), which is a defined contribution pension plan. WSA's contributions to the Plan include making regular payments into the Plan. The total amount paid into the Plan for 2015 was $1,173 (2014 - $1,127).

13. BUDGET FIGURES

The budget figures are presented for comparison purposes. WSA's Board of Directors approved the 2015 budget on February 26, 2014.

14. OTHER REVENUE

In the 2015 and 2014 fiscal years, structures along the Qu'Appelle River were transferred to WSA from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (Federal Government). WSA received one-time funding for each of the dams transferred, totalling $11,750 in 2015 and $24,150 in 2014, to compensate for continuing maintenance and upgrades to these structures. This funding has been included in Other Revenue in 2015 and in 2014. The fair value of all of the structures transferred in 2015 and 2014 was $nil.

Other revenue also includes the return of funds which had been held in escrow, in the amount of $628.

15. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

WSA's financial assets consist of cash and accounts receivables. Financial liabilities consist of accounts payable and accrued liabilities, employee future benefits, deferred revenue and long-term debt.

Credit risk
WSA is exposed to credit risk from the potential non-payment of accounts receivable. The carrying amount of accounts receivable represents WSA's maximum credit exposure.
The allowance for doubtful accounts is $nil (2014 - $nil).

Liquidity risk
Liquidity risk is the risk that WSA will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they become due. WSA monitors its cash balances and cash flows from operations to meet its requirements.

Interest rate risk
WSA is exposed to interest rate risk on its fixed rate long-term debt. The fixed rate instruments subject WSA to a fair value risk due to interest rate fluctuations in the market.

16. COMPARATIVE INFORMATION

Certain comparative figures have been reclassified to conform with the current year's presentation.

The comparative figures have been restated to appropriately report payments outstanding at March 31, 2014. The restatement resulted in an increase in cash and an increase in accounts payable and accrued liabilities of $3,793.

During the year, the Agency determined that amortization expense relating to one of its infrastructure assets was calculated at an incorrect rate in prior years and the reported amortization amounts were too high. The comparative figures have been restated to appropriately report the amortization expense on this infrastructure asset. The restatement resulted in an increase in opening accumulated surplus at April 1, 2013 of $910, an increase in the surplus for the year ending March 31, 2014 of $251 and an increase in tangible capital assets as at March 31, 2014 of $1,161.

17. INTERNALLY DESIGNATED NET FINANCIAL ASSETS

WSA has internally designated a portion of the Net Financial Assets to be used for various future purposes. Following is a listing of the amounts and expected uses of these funds.

Committed Net Financial Assets					
Project Name	**Balance on March 31, 2014**	**2014-15 Additional Funds**	**2014-15 Expense**	**2014-15 Capital Rehabilitation**	**Balance on March 31, 2015**
Qu'Appelle Structures Transfer Agreement Funds	$ 24,150	12,029	128	71	$ 35,980
Flood Relief Projects - EFDRP	$ 18,380	-	10,955	-	$ 7,425
Flood Relief Projects - Fishing Lake	$ 4,706	-	864	-	$ 3,842
Environment Canada Legal Settlement - Lake Lenore - Land Control	$ 4,000	-	-	-	$ 4,000
Qu'Appelle Structures Escrow Funds Repayment - Water Management Agreements	$ 163	628	12	-	$ 779
Unspent Capital Program Funds	$ 634	15,565	-	12,611	$ 3,588
Water Conservation - Go Green Funds	$ 487	-	-	-	$ 487
Total Committed	$ 52,520	28,222	11,959	12,682	$ 56,101
Non-Committed Net Financial Assets					
Total Non-Committed	**$ 9,958**				**$ 8,007**
Total Net Financial Assets	**$ 62,478**				**$ 64,108**

Government of Saskatchewan

WATER SECURITY AGENCY
Schedule 1 - Contract Revenue

Year Ended March 31
($ thousands)

	2015	2014
Canadian Wildlife Service	$ 128	$ 143
Environment Canada	200	159
Wildlife Habitat Canada	29	100
Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment	32	-
Saskatchewan Ministry of Highways	70	-
Saskatchewan Ministry of Economy	50	-
Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture	15	-
Natural Resources Canada	-	156
	$ 524	$ 558

WATER SECURITY AGENCY

Schedule 2 - Expenses by Program
Year ended March 31
($ thousands)

	Corporate services	Regional services	Water use and licensing	Infrastructure management	Watershed planning and implementation	Water quality services	Hydrology and groundwater services	Strategic integration and administration	Drinking & wastewater management	Interest & amortization	2015 Total	2014 (Restated - see Note 16) Total
Salaries and benefits	$ 4,582	$ 3,078	$ 877	$ 3,498	$ 669	$ 1,993	$ 1,657	$ 758	$ 3,253	$ -	$ **20,365**	$ 20,313
Travel and other staff costs	307	230	16	277	28	192	190	74	300	-	**1,614**	1,788
Professional services	390	16	64	961	79	259	45	202	139	-	**2,155**	1,706
Office supplies	1,077	83	5	54	13	32	30	18	61	-	**1,373**	1,350
Materials	7	4	-	125	1	30	19	-	13	-	**199**	274
Contractual services	48	175	-	384	-	-	863	708	536	-	**2,714**	2,168
Cash grants	-	961	-	-	1,065	223	-	-	-	-	**2,249**	2,389
Salary allocations	(3,616)	540	122	1	(391)	274	381	74	857	-	**(1,758)**	(1,616)
Other expenses	1,446	447	10	52	10	200	(44)	55	24	5,714	**7,914**	7,019
Total	$ 4,241	$ 5,534	$ 1,094	$ 5,352	$ 1,474	$ 3,203	$ 3,141	$ 1,889	$ 5,183	$ 5,714	$ **36,825**	$ 35,391

For More Information

More detailed information can be obtained by visiting the Water Security Agency's website at www.wsask.ca, calling its head office in Moose Jaw at 306-694-3900, or contacting the water inquiry line toll free at 1-866-SASK-H20 (1-866-727-5420) or SaskH20.ca.

Appendix A – 25 Year Saskatchewan Water Security Plan Report for 2014-15

Action Number	Action Description
1.1a	Promote adoption of best conservation and efficiency practices and technology through education, regulations, water licence conditions and new programming. Completion Target Year: Ongoing LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: A program review of the Water Conservation core service area was completed.
1.1b	Investigate pricing strategies as a means of promoting water conservation. Completion Target Year: 2016 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: The Principles for the Pricing of Water study was completed and the Value of Water study was initiated.
1.1c	Work with partners to promote research and development of innovative technology that improves the efficient use of water. Completion Target Year: 2016 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: No activity.
1.2a	Evaluate existing water supplies and future demands for the next 25 years and beyond to determine the need for new infrastructure across the province Completion Target Year: 2016 and Ongoing LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: Work is being updated on the Upper Qu'Appelle system. Water demand study is complete.
1.2b	Investigate alternative measures to increase the delivery of water from Lake Diefenbaker to Buffalo Pound Lake, including evaluation of the feasibility of the Qu'Appelle South irrigation project Completion Target Year: 2014 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: Complete. Stantec completed the conceptual and feasibility study of in-valley conveyance options. Evaluating the feasibility of the Qu'Appelle South Irrigation Project is being led by other ministries.

Action Number	Action Description
1.2c	Examine alternative ways of instituting the concept of "user-pay" with respect to the development of additional provincially owned, multi-purpose water supply infrastructure Completion Target Year: 2016 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: Complete. Report prepared by Myers Norris Penny.
1.3a	Develop a modern system of water allocation, including a new allocation policy and regulations Completion Target Year: 2014 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: Water Security Agency has developed concepts for new policy and legislation on allocation and is preparing for stakeholder consultations.
1.3b	Review existing water rights licences and assess current water use Completion Target Year: 2014 (priority), 2016 (other) LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: The review and update of industrial purpose water right files was 90% completed. Annual water use data, reported by sector and summarized by watershed, was completed.
1.3c	By watershed, determine the existing use of water, level of protection of environmental flows, how much water is available for future allocation, and identify areas where water scarcity may be a factor Completion Target Year: 2014(priority), 2016(other) LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: Water availability models completed for Souris River and the Saskatoon Southeast Water Supply System. Lake Diefenbaker and Swift Current Creek models are being worked on. Qu'Appelle River model is being updated.
1.4a	Work with Canada to continue to assess and seek funding support for further irrigation opportunities Completion Target Year: Ongoing LEAD AGENCY: Agriculture Update: Growing Forward 2 programming was accessed and funds were paid out for irrigation development ($4.89M) and adoption of irrigation best management practices ($6K).

Action Number	Action Description
1.4b	Develop an irrigation strategy that prioritizes opportunities for infill and new irrigation projects for development and assess the need for irrigation infrastructure rehabilitation Completion Target Year: 2014 LEAD AGENCY: Agriculture Update: Complete. Saskatchewan Irrigation Strategy released in July 2014.
1.4c	Work with Canada to transfer ownership of federal irrigation projects to local patrons Completion Target Year: 2017 LEAD AGENCY: Agriculture Update: Federal-provincial discussions continue.
1.4d	Develop new criteria for allocation licensing based on best practices and new technologies to sustainably support irrigation Completion Target Year: 2016 LEAD AGENCY: Agriculture Update: The criteria are expected to be finalized in conjunction with the completion of the Value for Water study and new Water Security Agency legislation.
1.5a	Continue work with research partners on climate change impacts to identify possibilities for adaptation Completion Target Year: Ongoing LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: WSA incorporated understanding effects of climate variability on risks to water quality in terms of reference for a study of water quality at Lake Diefenbaker with University of Saskatchewan.
1.6a	Develop detailed aquifer maps Completion Target Year: 2016 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: Strategy for project outlined. Data collection work ongoing.

Action Number	Action Description
1.6b	Analyze the water supply situation in the major rivers Completion Target Year: 2016 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: Models have been completed on water supply availability for the Souris River system. Work has been initiated on determining the supply available from Lake Diefenbaker and Swift Current River as part of the South Saskatchewan River system. Qu'Appelle model is being updated to reflect recent maintenance.
1.6c	Determine the existing water use by sector and delineated by the major basin Completion Target Year: 2016 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: Completed in 2013-14
1.6d	Examine projected water demand by sector within major basins to the year 2060 Completion Target Year: 2016 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: Completed in 2013-14
1.6e	Identify environmental flows to support the aquatic ecosystem Completion Target Year: 2016 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: Environmental flow assessments targeting fish habitat in the Qu'Appelle system in 2013 and 2014 complete. Water quality assessment and development of a decision support tool ongoing.
1.7a	Determine economic value of water in alternative uses Completion Target Year: 2016 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: Target completion is June 2015.
1.7b	Assess how the economic value of water could be used in allocation decision making Completion Target Year: 2016 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: The Value of Water Study was initiated and is expected to be completed in the summer of 2015.

Action Number	Action Description
2.1a	Review and update the province's approach to safe drinking water, including consideration of the 2002 Laing Report and the 2002 Safe Drinking Water Strategy Completion Target Year: 2014 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: Further review planned for 2015-16 following implementation of EMPA 2010 and *The Waterworks and Sewage Works Regulations*.
2.1b	Investigate and encourage opportunities for regional water treatment plants and distribution pipelines to increase access to, and protection of, high quality drinking water Completion Target Year: Ongoing LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: WSA staff encourage consideration of conversion to regional systems where existing municipal waterworks infrastructure cannot meet drinking water quality standards. This occurs during inspections, discussion with town councils or waterworks owners for regulated WSA facilities where appropriate to the facility specific situation and proximity to regional services.
2.1c	Evaluate the financial needs of communities for operation, maintenance and renewal of water infrastructure Completion Target Year: 2014 LEAD AGENCY: Government Relations Update: The first intake of proposed projects for the New Building Canada Fund have been submitted to Government Relations for cost-shared funding support, and municipalities have also been allocated funding for projects under the new Gas Tax Fund agreement. Unconditional funding in an amount equivalent to one point of the Provincial Sales Tax has continued to be provided to municipalities under the Municipal Revenue Sharing program to assist them in addressing their local priorities, including local water and wastewater infrastructure, at their discretion. Priority northern municipal water and sewer projects identified in the 2010 Waterworks System Assessments continued to be addressed with project management support from SaskWater. The Northern Water and Sewer Program provided $6.94 million in funding to upgrade water and sewer systems in 19 northern communities. Requirements for submission of a Waterworks System Assessment are in place and being implemented for WSA regulated waterworks for December 2015. Associated standards have been revised.

Action Number	Action Description
2.1d	Develop a strategy to encourage communities to renew drinking water infrastructure Completion Target Year: 2015 LEAD AGENCY: Government Relations Update: The province has committed to being a full funding partner under the federal New Building Canada Fund and has prioritized investment in municipal drinking water and wastewater infrastructure. Water and wastewater infrastructure renewal will also be supported through the Saskatchewan Infrastructure Growth Initiative 2 and the federal Gas Tax Fund. Municipalities are also able to utilize unconditional Municipal Revenue Sharing funds for infrastructure projects, at their discretion. Priority northern municipal water and sewer projects identified in the 2010 Waterworks System Assessments continued to be addressed with project management support from SaskWater. The Northern Water and Sewer Program provided $6.94 million in funding to upgrade water and sewer systems in 19 northern communities. The Northern Water and Sewer Program bases its approach on the municipal waterworks system assessments that are completed in five-year intervals, with the next assessment scheduled for 2015, and to coincide with federal and provincial infrastructure funding programs. Requirements for submission of a Waterworks System Assessment are in place and being implemented for WSA regulated waterworks for December 2015. Associated standards have been revised. New Building Canada Fund applications received and evaluated by GR and WSA in Q4 and will support drinking water and wastewater infrastructure renewal.
2.1e	Assess, with federal and First Nations governments, opportunities for the province to provide infrastructure, including connections to regional water systems, and technical and inspection services on reserves on a cost-recovery basis Completion Target Year: 2014 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency/SaskWater Update: Water Security Agency developed scope of actions with SaskWater and is encouraging use of regional services through discussion with other provincial agencies on regulations associated with federal Bill S-8, Safe Drinking Water for First Nations. Water Security Agency is also holding discussions with affected clients and providing drinking water educational materials.
2.2a	Review and rationalize the regulatory regime applying to semi-public systems Completion Target Year: 2015 LEAD AGENCY: Health/Water Security Agency Update: To be initiated 2015-16.

Action Number	Action Description
2.2b	Support research on water treatment technologies for point of use water systems Completion Target Year: Ongoing LEAD AGENCY: Health/Water Security Agency Update: WSA entered the second and final phase of the Point of Entry water treatment device study with the installation of a POE device in the residence of a consumer served by the Coteau Hills Rural Water Pipeline in Jan 2015. Phase 2 was delayed as it was necessary to find a willing participant after the initial consumers reconsidered their willingness to participate in the test. The study is expected to be completed by March 31, 2016.
2.3a	Implement an effective education and information strategy to raise awareness of drinking water safety issues, including information on proper well management, system operation and maintenance, water quality testing, and identification of and solutions for groundwater quality problems Completion Target Year: 2015 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: This work is scheduled to begin in 2015-16.
2.3b	Encourage testing of private water supplies, including testing for heavy metals Completion Target Year: 2015 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: WSA has initiated development of fact sheets and educational materials related to private well water quality and testing.
2.3c	Provide water testing and treatment advice in at risk locations during emergency events such as flooding that pose a high risk of drinking water contamination Completion Target Year: Ongoing LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: Private wells flooded in spring 2013 have been tested and advice provided to users. In conjunction with the Emergency Flood Damage Reduction Program, similar work was initiated late in Q4 of 2014-15 and will continue to 2015-16. WSA has also initiated development of fact sheets and educational materials related to private well water quality and testing in Q4 of 2014-15.

Action Number	Action Description
3.1a	Evaluate the status of existing municipal wastewater facilities to determine needs for upgrades Completion Target Year: 2014 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: 1) Completed evaluation of risk assessments for wastewater systems subject to the *Wastewater System Effluent Regulations* and the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment Canada-wide Strategy for Municipal Wastewater Effluents. 2) Tracking status of municipal wastewater facility for compliance with standards as a means to direct needed upgrading priorities. 3) Reviewing wastewater capacity during subdivision reviews. 4) Completed a technical assessment of the status and capacity of all regulated wastewater systems in Saskatchewan.
3.1b	Develop an agreement with Environment Canada for coordinated implementation of the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment Municipal Waste Water Effluent Canada-Wide Strategy and the Federal *Wastewater System Effluent Regulations* Completion Target Year: 2013 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: Negotiation of an administration agreement for delivery of the *Wastewater System Effluent Regulations* was concluded in a technical capacity in Q4 of 2014-15 and was in process of federal and provincial approval at fiscal year-end.

Action Number	Action Description
3.1c	Develop a strategy to encourage the renewal of municipal wastewater treatment infrastructure to ensure protection of water quality in receiving water bodies Completion Target Year: 2015 LEAD AGENCY: Government Relations Update: The province has committed to being a full funding partner under the federal New Building Canada Fund and has prioritized investment in municipal drinking water and wastewater infrastructure. Water and wastewater infrastructure renewal will also be supported through the Saskatchewan Infrastructure Growth Initiative 2 and the federal Gas Tax Fund. Municipalities are also able to utilize unconditional Municipal Revenue Sharing funds for infrastructure projects, at their discretion. Priority northern municipal water and sewer projects identified in the 2010 Waterworks System Assessments continued to be addressed with project management support from SaskWater. The Northern Water and Sewer Program provided $6.94 million in funding to upgrade water and sewer systems in 19 northern communities. The Northern Water and Sewer Program bases its approach on the municipal waterworks system assessments that are completed in five-year intervals, with the next assessment scheduled for 2015, and to coincide with federal and provincial infrastructure funding programs. New Building Canada Fund applications were received and evaluated by GR and WSA in Q4 and will support drinking water and wastewater infrastructure renewal.
3.1d	Develop coordinated policies to reduce risk of water contamination that may result from residential wastewater management in high density rural developments and cottage subdivisions Completion Target Year: 2014 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency/Health Update: Significant effort to improve the collection and disposal of Liquid Domestic Waste have been made in 2014-15 including waste hauler workshops and compliance related actions, however this is only part of the effort needed to address all types of residential wastewater management in high density rural development and cottage subdivisions. Further work planned for 2015-16.

Action Number	Action Description
3.1e	Define water quality objectives, including nutrient-related objectives, for surface water bodies and watercourses in the province, beginning with the highest priority systems and including work on key transboundary sites Completion Target Year: Ongoing LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: Development of transboundary site objectives continues in collaboration with Prairie Provinces Water Board Committee on Water Quality (PPWB COWQ). Document drafted as of Q4 and scheduled for consultation in Q1 of 2015-16. Water quality surveys of the Qu'Appelle system were initiated in summer 2013 and continue in 2014 to develop a nutrient budget and inform development of water quality objectives. Analysis and interpretation of Baseline Environmental Monitoring of Lower Order Streams in Saskatchewan (BEMLOSS) and primary station water quality data initiated. Analysis and interpretation of Watershed Evaluation of BMP (WEBs2) water quality data underway led by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC).
3.1f	Implement a recreational lake water quality monitoring program for swimming areas at lakes across the province Completion Target Year: 2014 LEAD AGENCY: Ministry of Health Update: MOH designed and initiated monitoring of select recreational lakes and contuined program in 2014.
3.1g	Provide information and encourage the implementation of beneficial land and water management practices to reduce non-point sources of nutrients and other contaminants to surface and groundwater Completion Target Year: Ongoing LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: Continued to assist in the delivery of the MOA Growing Forward 2 program under the Federal / Provincial Growing Forward Agricultural Policy Framework by providing agrologist, water technologist and engineering and geoscience technical support to implement BMPs on the landscape.

Action Number	Action Description
3.1h	Complete the Boreal Watershed Initiative Completion Target Year: 2016 LEAD AGENCY: Environment Update: Ministry of Environment continued under the Boreal Watershed Strategy to assess and maintain the ecological integrity of Saskatchewan's northern watersheds. Work includes monitoring for uranium and other contaminants to ensure safety of traditional foods, examining current air quality through continuous monitoring, and through wet and dry deposition monitoring (precipitation) and historical air quality by taking tree cores, study of contaminants in loons, gull eggs, otters, and dragonflies, research on benthic invertebrates as indicators of water quality and completion of assessment of soil impacts from acid precipitation. Expect project will be complete in 2015-16.
3.1i	Define a strategy to reduce the contamination risk posed to groundwater sources by abandoned water wells Completion Target Year: 2014 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: Completed in 2013-14
3.1j	Negotiate with Canada a new commitment to continue the Environmental Farm Plan Program, with a focus on nutrient management and protection of water supplies Completion Target Year: 2013 LEAD AGENCY: Agriculture Update: Completed in 2013-14
3.2a	Prepare a new provincial wetland policy that includes an assessment of the status of wetlands in the province and identification of conservation priorities, including a strategy to retain and restore wetlands Completion Target Year: 2015 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: Wetland policy development has merged with drainage policy development, which is progressing.

Action Number	Action Description
3.3a	*Establish site-specific objectives for environmental flows in priority surface water systems* Completion Target Year: 2016 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: Environmental flow assessments targeting fish habitat in the Qu'Appelle system in 2013 and 2014 complete. Water quality assessment and development of a decision support tool ongoing.
3.3b	Prepare an aquatic alien species strategy to identify and address significant threats to biodiversity and ecosystem health Completion Target Year: 2015 LEAD AGENCY: Environment Update: Ministry of Environment efforts in 2014-15 focused on addressing the immediate risks posed by invasive mussels, which has caused some delay to the work on the aquatic alien species strategy. Considerable effort was dedicated to refining risk assessment information, raising public awareness, developing monitoring protocols and collaborating with other jurisdictions. Work will commence on the strategy in 2015 with a goal for completion by March 2016.
3.3c	Develop protocols with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans to ensure the ongoing protection of fish habitat under the new federal Fisheries Act Completion Target Year: 2013 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: Forest Service pursuing fish habitat protection equivalency with DFO for forest industry stream crossings.
3.4a	Update the source water protection planning process to achieve resilient, locally appropriate source water protection plans that are informed by science to identify key local threats to source water protection, address drinking water source protection, and identify achievable solutions for implementation Completion Target Year: 2014 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: As part of program review the watershed planning and plan implementation programs will be reviewed and a path forward developed.

Action Number	Action Description
3.4b	Work with Saskatchewan Association of Watersheds to more clearly identify the future roles and responsibilities of watershed and aquifer planning groups, including the renewal of source water protection plans Completion Target Year: 2014 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: As part of program review the watershed planning and plan implementation programs will be reviewed and a path forward developed.
3.4c	Evaluate the need to expand source water protection planning to additional watersheds or aquifers Completion Target Year: 2014 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: As part of program review the watershed planning and plan implementation programs will be reviewed and a path forward developed.
3.4d	Assess and renew the approach to implementing source water protection plans to ensure that threats to source water are mitigated into the future Completion Target Year: 2013 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: As part of program review the watershed planning and plan implementation programs will be reviewed and a path forward developed.
4.1a	Implement the Water Security Agency's 10 year plan for infrastructure rehabilitation and dam safety Completion Target Year: Ongoing LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: 1) The 10 year plans were periodically reviewed and updated throughout the year. 2) Significant infrastructure rehabilitation included enlarging and lining 3.2 km of the M1 Canal and constructing a major wasteway structure, repairing another major erosion area on the Boundary-Rafferty Diversion channel, completion of the electrical system upgrades for the spillway gates at Gardiner Dam and successfully dredging out 3.1 km of the Upper Qu'Appelle Channel thereby increasing channel capacity. 3) Significant dam safety accomplishments included updating the Emergency Response Plan for Rafferty Dam, completion of a geotechnical assessment for Buffalo Pound Dam, and substantial completion of an Intensity, Duration and Frequency selection study for the Rafferty and Alameda dams.

Action Number	Action Description
4.1b	Establish legislative requirements for dam safety for both public and private dams and identify long term strategies for compliance Completion Target Year: 2014 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: Preliminary policy work and drafting are complete, and internal consultation has occurred. The schedule to complete comprehensive legislation which would include these elements is temporarily on hold.
4.1c	Complete emergency preparedness plans for major Water Security Agency dams Completion Target Year: 2013 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: Completed in 2013-14
4.2a	Review existing reservoir operating plans and update them on a priority basis Completion Target Year: 2014 (priority) LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: Lake Diefenbaker draft operating plan expected 2015/16
4.2b	Negotiate transfer of federally owned infrastructure to the province where appropriate to meet provincial interests Completion Target Year: 2017 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: Work beginning to assess the transfer of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada water management infrastructure.
5.1a	Develop improved flood forecasting tools Completion Target Year: 2016 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: Staff currently examining forecast tool options, engagement of University of Saskatchewan
5.1b	Develop a provincial emergency flood response plan that addresses community, individual and local government responsibilities Completion Target Year: 2014 LEAD AGENCY: Government Relations Update: The all-hazards Provincial Emergency Management Plan is reviewed annually and updated as needed.

Action Number	Action Description
5.1c	Develop a strategy to ensure communities and the public have access to flood hazard information and are aware of potential flood risks Completion Target Year: 2014 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: Development of the SaskAlert system is an important step to ensure citizens are warned of flood risks. SaskAlert is a new emergency public alerting program supported by the federal, provincial and territorial governments. SaskAlert will provide critical information on emergency events as they are occurring, enabling the public to take action to protect themselves, their family and their property.
5.1d	Undertake a flood risk assessment of municipal drinking water and wastewater infrastructure Completion Target Year: 2016 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: Systems at risk of flooding understood at Environmental Project Officer level. A formal survey-based assessment has not yet been initiated and remains pending.
5.1e	Encourage municipalities to map flood risk areas associated with under-capacity of wastewater and storm sewer infrastructure as projected in the Insurance Bureau of Canada's report on impacts associated with climate change Completion Target Year: Ongoing LEAD AGENCY: Government Relations Update: The province has switched to a broader flood risk assessment strategy, in part to capture funding under the federal National Disaster Mitigation Program.
5.1f	Implement the flood protection and prevention measures established in The Statements of Provincial Interest Regulations into local official community plans and zoning bylaws Completion Target Year: Ongoing LEAD AGENCY: Government Relations Update: Being implemented as communities renew their official community plans and zoning bylaws. Ongoing activity. In 2014-15, 50 new official community plans were approved with flood prevention and protection measures as contained within The Statements of Provincial Interest Regulations (SPI). There were 1239 subdivisions totaling 2859 sites were approved that meet the flood protection standards contained within the SPI.

Action Number	Action Description
5.1g	Pursue negotiations with Canada to develop and implement a new long term federal-provincial program for flood mitigation as part of an all hazards program Completion Target Year: 2013 LEAD AGENCY: Government Relations Update: Government Relations is coordinating a provincial flood hazards working group to identify and rank flood mitigation priorities. It includes representatives from Government Relations, Water Security Agency, Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure, and Ministry of Agriculture. The working group will recommend some flood mitigation projects under the 5-year federal National Disaster Mitigation Program and others under the 15% mitigation funding component of the federal Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements.
5.2a	Assess the range of alternatives and implement strategic actions to manage drainage Completion Target Year: 2013 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: The report of the On Line Forum was used to help in the drafting of new drainage regulations.
5.2b	Develop a results-based drainage works approval process and associated enforcement strategy, including the potential use of financial penalties Completion Target Year: 2014 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: Consultations were held with 11 user groups to discuss the draft drainage regulations, and their inputs were used to refine draft drainage regulations.
5.2c	Develop new strategies to effectively address excessive moisture concerns on agricultural lands, including provision of information and advice on proper drainage design and management and consideration of the benefits of wetland retention and restoration Completion Target Year: 2014 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: This information will be released in 2015-16 as part of the new direction on water management.

Action Number	Action Description
5.3a	Develop a coordinated provincial drought response plan that includes monitoring, preparedness, response, and recovery approaches Completion Target Year: 2014 LEAD AGENCY: Agriculture Update: Ministry of Agriculture led development of terms of reference for the project. A draft of the drought plan has been shared with WSA and finalization of a drought response plan is anticipated in 2016.
5.3b	Develop new regulations for water allocation to help manage water shortages during droughts Completion Target Year: 2014 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: Policy development is underway.
6.1a	Complete a strategic review of major monitoring programs, including surface water, groundwater and water quality Completion Target Year: 2015 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: An initial program review of the Surface Water Quality Monitoring of Primaries program was conducted in 2014-15. This review resulted in a recommendation to conduct a more in depth program evaluation of the Surface Water Quality Monitoring of Primaries program. This evaluation will review the network of surface water quality primary stations and data collected, within the existing budget, to ensure the data necessary for future water management decision-making is being gathered.
6.1b	Develop an integrated geographically referenced database to provide government-wide and public access to water-based information Completion Target Year: 2015 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: The Geocortex tool has been purchased and installed. Geographic link to one databases is being worked on, other databases reviewed for practical application and prioritization.

Action Number	Action Description
6.1c	Consolidate precipitation data and information through the development of cooperative agreements and partnerships with government and non government organizations Completion Target Year: 2014 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: WSA finalized arrangements to ensure data collected by Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation is available to our international partners on the Souris River in fulfillment of Premier's commitment post 2011 flood event. WSA also continued contract negotiations with the Weather Innovation Network to consolidate precipitation data from multiple sources and develop mapping products. An agreement is expected to be finalized in 2015. Growth of the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail & Snow (CoCoRaHS) Network in Saskatchewan through 2014 did not meet contract performance measures.
6.2a	Establish protocols for informing the public during emergencies related to flood, drought, infrastructure failure, and water quality and drinking water concerns Completion Target Year: 2014 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: Complete. Ministry of Government relations led establishment of the Sask Alert System which provides the protocol for informing public in all emergencies.
6.2b	Develop a user-friendly water information portal on the new Water Security Agency web site to make information on water and water management issues widely available Completion Target Year: 2013 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: Design stage of adding Drainage to the existing information portal.
6.2c	Report on progress in implementing the 25 Year Water Security Plan Completion Target Year: Ongoing LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: Reported by means of this document.

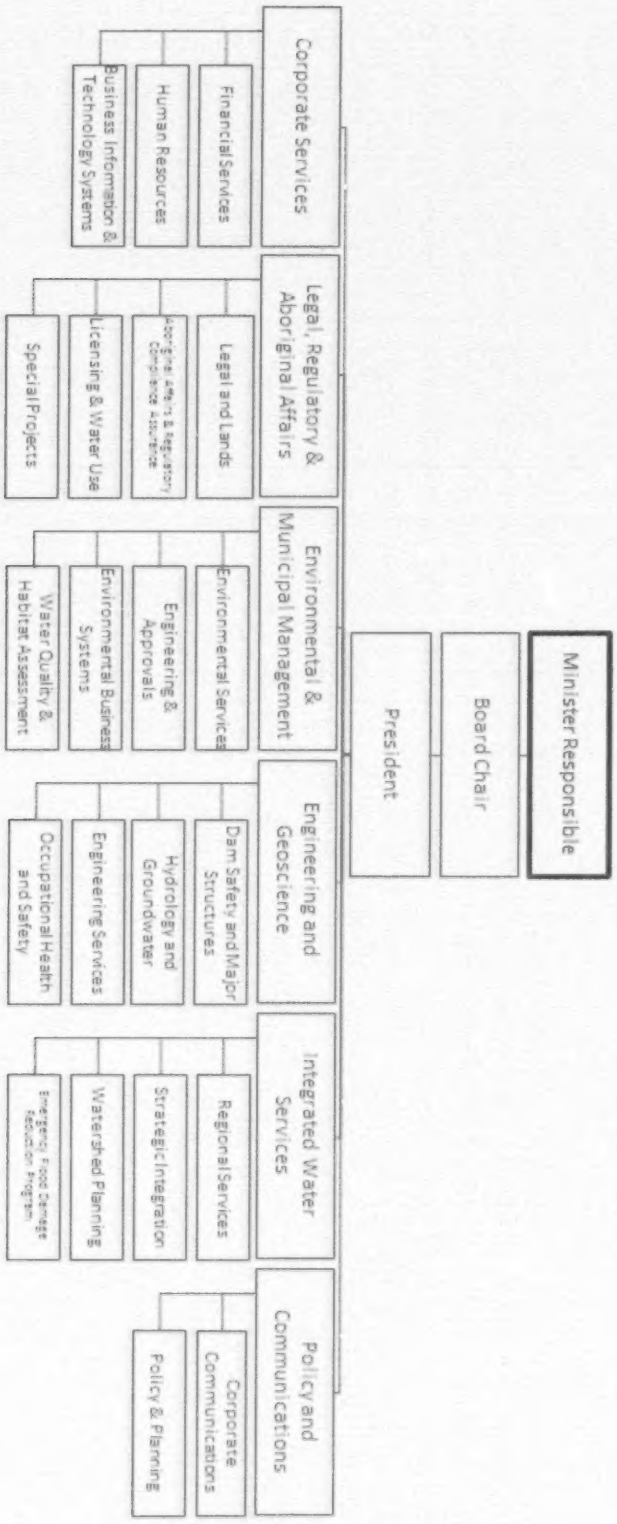
Action Number	Action Description
6.2d	Publish the State of the Watershed Report every five years in an expanded form which can be applied by government in the renewal of the 25 Year Saskatchewan Water Security Plan and by the public in decision making Completion Target Year: 2015 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: Water Security Agency completed trial work on formats for a web based report.
6.3a	Support the work of the Global Institute for Water Security at the University of Saskatchewan in their assessment of the water supply and quality issues in the South Saskatchewan River Completion Target Year: Ongoing LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: WSA is supporting a four-year study on water quality at Lake Diefenbaker led by Dr. Jeff Hudson at the University of Saskatchewan. Study is now in its second year.
6.3b	Identify opportunities to collaborate with external academic and research partners on defining and undertaking strategic research initiatives Completion Target Year: Ongoing LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: Cooperating with the University of Saskatchewan Centre for Hydrology on drainage science and flow forecasting science. Cooperating with University of Saskatchewan on a four-year water quality study at Lake Diefenbaker .
7.1a	Develop modern and comprehensive water legislation Completion Target Year: 2014 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: Draft drainage legislation development proceeding. As a first step, drainage regulation is being modernized and is expected to be in force in summer 2015
7.2a	Establish provincial Deputy Ministers' Water Committee Completion Target Year: 2013 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: The committee was established and met once during the year.

Action Number	Action Description
7.2b	Work with Canada to identify opportunities to improve regulatory and program coordination and collaboration Completion Target Year: Ongoing LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: Water Security Agency met with Canada under the protocol agreement to consult on issues of mutual concern.
7.3a	Develop improved models for engagement with First Nations and Métis to better understand their perspectives on water and water management and facilitate effective working relationships Completion Target Year: Ongoing LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: A proposal for building staff knowledge is in draft form and is designed to augment program and policy information with expertise in collaborative problem solving skills and interest-based processes. As most work involves obligations related to the provincial Consult Policy Framework, this action is planned to be coordinated with the release of new provincial duty to consult guidelines (Process Guide) expected to be released early in 2015.
7.3b	Where water management decisions may have an adverse impact on the exercise of treaty and aboriginal rights and pursuit of traditional uses, consult with First Nations and Métis in accordance with the First Nations and Métis Consultation Policy Framework Completion Target Year: Ongoing LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: Consultations continue as required by the provincial Policy Framework and case law.
7.4a	Establish the Provincial Water Council with sector-based representation Completion Target Year: 2013 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: Committee has not been established.
7.5a	Investigate new approaches to engage the public and local governments on water issues and decisions of importance to them Completion Target Year: 2015 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: Following receipt of the report from the innovative online forum on drainage, Minister Scott Moe met with major municipal, agricultural and environmental stakeholders to discuss proposals for a new approach to drainage management.

Action Number	Action Description
7.6a	Continue to work with the Prairie Provinces Water Board to evaluate the resiliency of the Master Agreement on Apportionment Completion Target Year: Ongoing LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: The PPWB through the Committee on Hydrology has undertaken modeling to assess the impact of drought on water supply and water use. Climate change scenarios suggest that there will be challenges to achieve the principles of the Master Agreement on Apportionment. It is important to understand the extent of the potential impact and to develop mechanisms to mitigate this impact.
7.6b	In support of the Mackenzie River Basin Board, negotiate bilateral agreements with Alberta and North West Territories Completion Target Year: 2016 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: Progress continues towards the completion of the Alberta/ Saskatchewan bilateral water management agreement. An advanced draft is under internal review and discussion with Alberta will follow. The first meeting to develop a similar agreement with the Northwest Territories was held and further discussion is planned.
7.6c	Continue to work with the International Souris River Board of the International Joint Commission to establish an enhanced operating plan for Rafferty and Alameda reservoirs Completion Target Year: 2015 LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: The International Souris River Board has struck a subcommittee to examine enhancing the operating plans for Rafferty and Alameda reservoirs. The subcommittee has worked on clarifying associated 1989 Agreement language and drafting enhanced operating plans.
7.6d	Continue to support the work of the Council of the Federation Water Stewardship Council to use information and experience from other jurisdictions across Canada to address water problems in Saskatchewan Completion Target Year: Ongoing LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: Completed the posting of links to Saskatchewan water management information on the Council of the Federation, Water Stewardship Infostream website. This website was developed for the sharing of water information across Canada. The Water Stewardship Council has completed its work and has disbanded.

Action Number	Action Description
7.6e	Continue to work with the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment to address emerging water issues common to all jurisdictions Completion Target Year: Ongoing LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: Water Security Agency served as co-chair of The Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME) Water Management Committee during 2014-15. Water Security Agency led development of a report for Water Management Committee on common principles for water pricing. Water Security Agency also serves as chair of the Federal-Provincial-Territorial Committee on Drinking water.
7.7a	Undertake comprehensive water management analyses for priority surface and groundwater systems Completion Target Year: 2014(priority), 2016(other) LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: Work is underway on the comprehensive water management of the South Saskatchewan River System.
7.7b	Implement new watershed modeling and data base management systems to allow efficient evaluation of new requests for water and ensure that cumulative effects are considered Completion Target Year: 2014(priority), 2016(other) LEAD AGENCY: Water Security Agency Update: Models have been completed on water supply availability for the Souris River system. Work has been initiated on determining the supply available from Lake Diefenbaker and Swift Current River as part of the South Saskatchewan River system. Qu'Appelle model is being updated to reflect recent maintenance.

Appendix B – Organizational Structure



Government of Saskatchewan

Appendix C – Regional Boundaries & Office Locations